Gloria hits rich nations over trade practices

STORY ON PAGE A2

The party's over, court tells Jinggoy

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

THE PARTY'S over. The Sandiganbayan Special Division yesterday ordered the Philippine National Police to bring Jinggoy Estrada back to the Veterans Memorial Medical Center in Quezon City not later than 5 p.m. today.

THE PARTY'S/A16

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
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WITH THIS ISSUE
All about élan

- In a mood for 'boy toys'?
- Portrait of a First Daughter
- Romancing the racetracks on the way to F1

LULI

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph · Saturday, July 6, 2002 ★ 66 pages / 7 sections / vol.17 / no. 208 · P15 · website: www.inq7.net

Ople sets condition for taking DFA job

Senator wants to vote with Angara bloc

By Juliet L. Javellana

SEN. Blas Ople has made a "non-negotiable" stand: He would consider appointment to the Cabinet only after he had voted for the Senate opposition bloc led by Sen. Edgardo Angara at the opening of Congress on July 22.

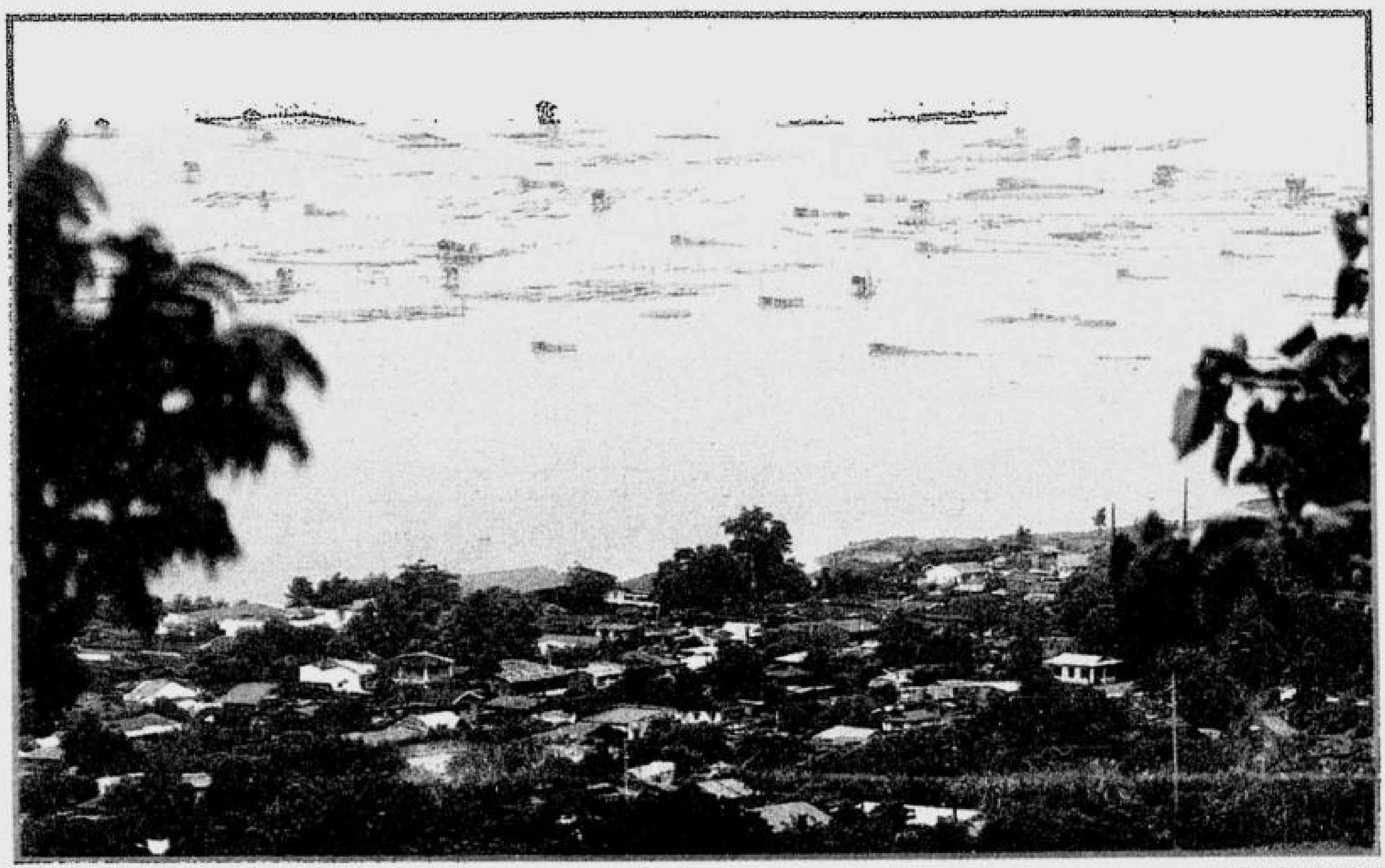
This was what Bulacan Rep. Willie B. Villarama said in a phone interview yesterday from Los Angeles. The congressman, who served as aide to Ople in the past, had lunch with the opposition senator at his hotel before escorting him to the LA airport for his flight back to the Philippines.

"He will not abandon the Angara group just to get favors from the administration. He's not like that," Villarama said, adding that Ople would issue a statement upon his scheduled arrival in Manila at 6 a.m. today on a Philippine Airlines flight.

But at the lunch where Ople admitted being "approached by some people from Malacañang," Villarama said, "his body language was that he is tickled and happy that there are talks like this."

A highly placed source told the INQUIRER Thursday that Ople

OPLE/A16



JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

LIVING LAKE
One of the largest lakes in Southeast Asia, Laguna de Bay last year became the 18th-member lake protected by the Germany-based Living Lakes International Network funded by big business in Europe. Environmental defilements are monitored by the Laguna Lake Development Authority.

Guingona a no-show at Cabinet meeting

By Carlito Pablo

IN yet another indication of the strained relations between him and President Macapagal-Arroyo, Vice President Teofisto Guingona did not attend yesterday's Cabinet meeting.

An official present at the meeting—the first since the President and the Vice President met and finalized the latter's resignation as foreign affairs secretary effective July 15—said the Cabinet proceeded with its scheduled agenda.

"No one openly asked where the Vice President was. But everybody was aware of his absence," the source said.

Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong occupied Guingona's designated seat at the right of the President, while Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo was at her left.

Malacañang did not offer an official explanation on Guingona's absence. The INQUIRER could not reach the Vice President at press time.

The Cabinet meeting started at 11 a.m., and officials were still closeted inside Malacañang before 5 p.m.

The President had been scheduled to leave the Palace at 3 p.m. for a "personal" meeting of which no details were known.

At 5 p.m. acting Press Secretary Silvestre Afable had yet to

GUINGONA/A16

Scrap defective IPP contracts, gov't urged

By Gerald Lacuarta, Rocky Nazareno, Juliet Labog-Javellana, and Ronnel W. Domingo

MILITANT party-list representatives yesterday urged the government to immediately rescind, not just renegotiate, the electricity supply contracts that a review committee has found to be onerous and defective.

Only six of 35 power supply contracts with independent power producers (IPP) passed a review conducted by an interagency committee headed by Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho.

Akbayan Rep. Etta Rosales said President Macapagal-Arroyo should also "let the ax fall where it must," particularly on those responsible for getting the country ensnared in the supply contracts widely blamed for the excessive electricity rates that consumers are paying today.

Administration senators, however, favor immediate renegotiation of the defective IPP contracts before resorting to other legal remedies such as rescission.

Rosales and Bayan Rep. Crispin Beltran said merely opting to renegotiate was irresponsible and would mean condoning the "heinous crime" that was allegedly committed when these contracts were signed.

Five of the contracts were found to be defective and could result in possible legal action, the President said the other day.

Only six were found to have no "legal or financial issues" that would need to be renegotiated.

The 27 others would have to

SCRAP/A17

Macapagal cracks whip on kidnappers

By Dona Pazzibugan and Martin Marfil

THE NEW chief of the Philippine National Police Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. will have to go after kidnappers at breakneck speed.

And President Macapagal-Arroyo herself will be breathing down his neck. Which is why Ebdane wants to retain the National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force (Naktaf) despite the President's order to abolish it.

The President told the INQUIRER Thursday night that she will personally oversee the anti-kidnapping campaign to make sure that it takes off.

Earlier this month she gave Ebdane a year to eliminate kidnapping syndicates. Last Thursday during the turnover of the PNP command to Ebdane, the President reiterated that Ebdane's immediate priorities are to "eliminate kidnapping in one year" and put a stop to drug trafficking.

The first anti-kidnapping summit will be held on Tuesday.

MACAPAGAL/A17

BING GONZALES/ PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

HAPPY dad, Johnny Ching, and his 2-year-old son who was recovered by the police after he was kidnapped for 21 hours.

Davao police rescue 2-year-old boy from 'amateur kidnappers'

By Ayan C. Mellejor and Anthony S. Allada
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—Police rescued a 2-year-old boy 21 hours after he was snatched by a bunch of kidnappers described by authorities as amateurs.

Senior Supt. Alex Monteagudo, chief of the National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force (Naktaf) here, said the victim was recovered around 12 noon on Thursday near police headquarters along busy San Pedro Street here.

Monteagudo said four of the suspected kidnappers, including the victim's babysitter, were arrested in a police operation.

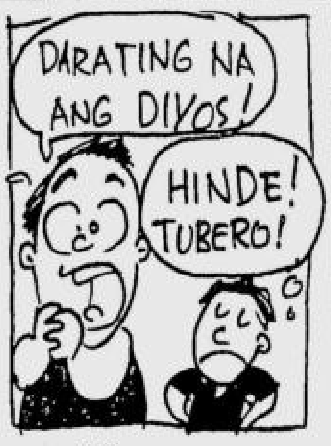
Jeremy Duane, son of businessman Johnny Ching, was taken out of their house in Juna Subdivision by his babysitter identified as Jean Tortor at around 3 p.m. on Wednesday.

Tortor allegedly turned over the boy to her cohorts who demanded P2 million for the boy's freedom.

But Monteagudo said a friend of the Chings tipped off the police who swiftly launched a rescue operation.

The police action, he said, apparently rattled the kid-

DAVAO/A17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Message from God, or bad plumbing?

JERUSALEM—A message from God, or just bad plumbing?

A wet patch has appeared on the revered Western Wall of Jerusalem's Old City, interpreted by some as a sign the Messiah is coming, and others as

MESSAGE/A16

UK, Dutch bird lovers helping to save 'kalaws'

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

BIRD conservationists from the Netherlands and Britain have joined forces with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to save the Philippine hornbill, locally known as "kalaw."

All six species of the hornbills found in the Philippines are now in the list of threatened wildlife in the country, according to the DENR's Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB).

The population of hornbills is being threatened by the trading of live birds, the destruction of their natural habitat by logging and slash-and-burn farming, and infrastructure development.

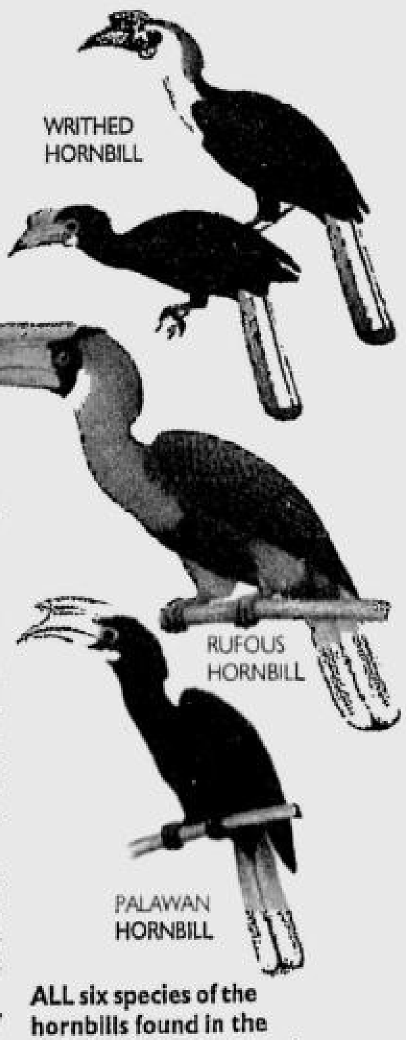
The Vogelpark Avifauna (VA) of the Netherlands and the North of England Zoological Society (NEZS) recently signed a memorandum of agreement with the DENR for the development of the Philippine Hornbills Conservation Program.

There is no current estimate of the hornbill population which is scattered in western Visayas, Mindoro and southern Luzon.

The hornbill, distinguished by its flattened bill, belongs to the *Bucerotidae* family.

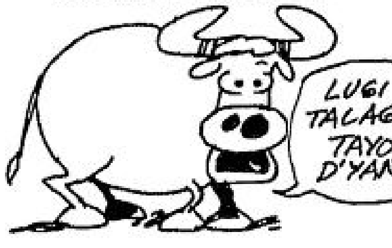
Under the agreement, the

UK/A16



ALL six species of the hornbills found in the Philippines are now on the list of threatened wildlife.

SOURCE: A GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF THE PHILIPPINES


LUGI TALAGA TAYO D'YAN!

GMA raps rich nations over trade practices

By Carlito Pablo

WEALTHY countries have failed to practice what they preach to developing countries like the Philippines in the area of free trade, President Macapagal-Arroyo lamented yesterday.

In a speech before the 59th Asean Chamber of Commerce and Industry council meeting in Malacañang, the President lashed out at developed countries that blocked exports from poor countries while "lecturing" them on the need to open their markets.

Developed countries should make it easier for poorer ones to trade with them, said the President. She warned that unless developing countries benefit from trade liberalization, the system could lose its credibility.

It did not help, Ms Macapagal said, that developed countries insisted on maintaining "protectionist" barriers against products of interest to the Asean countries—Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

"Sanitary requirements and technical standards seem to be the protectionists' weapon of choice," the President said. She cited the example of Philippine mangoes, bananas and pineapples, which had to undergo extensive data collection and certification requirements for a year or more in some markets. ***(See related story on A4)***

She said the "onerous and excessive" barriers also covered textiles and garments, and tropical agricultural and fisheries products.

"Developed countries take every opportunity to lecture us on the virtues of a market-driven economy," President Macapagal pointed out, "while hundreds of billions of dollars subsidize their farm production."

She said that these practices prejudiced the climate for free trade, and weakened global commitment to it.

Despite her criticisms, Ms Macapagal said she was still committed to expanded trade, and urged the Asean countries to further integrate their economies under the ASEAN Free Trade Area (Afta).

Under Afta, the six founding members would cut trade tariffs next year on most products by a maximum of five percent. Less developed members would be given extra time to adjust.

"We cannot generate investments unless we become part of a larger, integrated regional market," Arroyo said, adding this was the only way the region could compete with the international trade giants.

For its part, Ms Macapagal stressed, the Philippines would maintain economic ties with the rest of the world "to the extent that these ties are consistent with our commitments to the welfare of the people."

The President said the country supported a "rules-based, multilateral trading system" which the World Trade Organization was supposed to be.

But, Ms Macapagal said, "Our support is pragmatic, not ideological. We want what works for our people."

Trade, she explained, was "central to our global engagement and, hence, our development agenda. Properly employed trade policies enhance our access to a wider range of goods, services, technologies and knowledge. More trade stimulates entrepreneurship, creates jobs, attracts capital, increases foreign earnings and fosters vital learning processes." ***With a report from***

STRIKE FOR ASEAN BUSINESS. President Macapagal strikes the gong opening the 59th Asean Chamber of Commerce and Industry meeting and the 15th Asean-CCI Conference at Malacañang. Looking on is Raul Concepcion, Asean-CCI president. MALACAÑANG PHOTO

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President had no choice on MILF camp, solon says

By Christine O. Avendano

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo didn't have much latitude when she ordered a part of the biggest former Muslim rebel base in Maguindanao converted to a government military camp.

Now she is being accused of violating recently signed peace accord between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

Zamboanga City Rep. Celso Lobregat said yesterday the "defective" agreements had put the President "in a straitjacket." The solon also blamed "bungling" presidential advisers, referring to Sec. Eduardo Ermita (Peace Process) and Norberto Gonzales (Special Concerns).

Lobregat's remarks followed MILF spokesman Eid Kabalu's accusation that the camp makeover, as ordered by Ms Macapagal, was "a hostile act."

During her June 2 visit to Camp Abu Bakar, the President said it would henceforth be known as Camp Duma Sinsuat and serve as the headquarters of the Army's 603rd Infantry Brigade under Col. Antonio Romero.

Ms Macapagal said this was to disprove suspicions that the government meant to return the MILF's former base.

While the rebels had no problem with the new name, they said the camp's conversion "shattered confidence-building efforts in the ongoing peace negotiation."

Under the GRP-MILF agreements, Kabalu pointed out, troop movements were prohibited. He said the MILF was set to file a protest against the government before the peace panels.

Lobregat said he supported the President's stand against returning the MILF camp, as well her announcement on its impending transformation.

But, he said, quoting the military during Congressional hearings, the peace agreements have "limited the capacity of the armed forces to implement its mandate."

Lobregat had earlier warned that the accords violated both the Constitution and earlier Presidential directives regarding the disposition of the camp.

"If the provisions cited by Kabalu (as having been violated) were not in the agreements," Lobregat said, then the MILF was out of order. But the provisions did exist, he said, and "the MILF is now using these as weapons against the government." ***With reports from Edwin O. Fernandez and Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

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DPWH vehicle repair scam suspects axed

By Blanche S. Rivera

TO PROVE his earnestness in cleansing the Department of Public Works and Highways, Secretary Simeon Datumanong yesterday relieved 41 officials and employees of the agency for their involvement in the P139.63-million vehicle repair scam.

In department orders 169 and 170 which he issued yesterday, Datumanong replaced 41 DPWH bureau directors, division chiefs, inspectors, accountants, bookkeepers, computers operators and canvassers who connived to secure ghost repairs or unnecessary fixes on official vehicles.

"Let this be a warning to all officials and employees that I do not hesitate to fire people just to effect the program of good governance in the DPWH," Datumanong said.

Two officials who were fired, director Emily Tanquintic and Bureau of Equipment director Abraham Divina, were part of the team tasked by Datumanong to investigate the huge and irregular expenses for the vehicle repair.

Director for legal affairs Oscar Abundo, BoE assistant director Florendo Arias, Spare parts section chief Maximo Borje, Administrative and Manpower Service director Burt Favorito, and Central Equipment and Spare Parts Division chief Danilo Planta were the highest ranking officials to be discharged.

Those relieved were ordered to report to Assistant Secretary Salvador Pleyto for their temporary reassignments. Of the 41 who were relieved, 14 did not have replacements.

Datumanong ordered the discharged officials to "clear themselves from all property and money accountabilities" and to turn over their work assignments and membership in committees or task force to their replacements.

The DPWH spent a whopping P139.63 million in 6,928 transactions for the repair of 578 vehicles last year. The DWPH has 147 motor vehicles and 400 service vehicles, acquired mostly through foreign-assisted projects.

More typhoons expected

THE WEATHER bureau expects two to three typhoons to hit the country this month.

Pag-asa said yesterday's strong rains were brought by the southwest monsoon affecting most parts of the country.

The bureau has forecast scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms today for the western sections of Luzon, including Metro Manila, and the Visayas.

The last tropical cyclone to hit the country was "Florita" which skirted the Luzon mainland in late June.

Only one other typhoon, "Espada", passed the country last month.

"Near normal" rainfall conditions are to be expected in most parts of the country, said Aida Jose, chief of Pag-asa's climatology and agrometeorology branch.

Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate, the northern part of Leyte and the whole of Samar will experience above normal rainfall, she said.

Formal raps ordered vs Laurel in Expo scam

By Michael Lim Ubac

OMBUDSMAN Aniano Desierto yesterday ordered the formal filing of graft charges against former Vice President Salvador "Doy" Laurel in connection with the 1998 Centennial Exposition project in Pampanga.

Desierto ordered the filing of the charges before the Sandiganbayan following the Supreme Court's ruling that upheld the Ombudsman's authority to investigate and prosecute the former second highest official in the land.

"I have ordered the filing of the proper information against (Laurel) as the immediate consequence of the resolution of the Supreme Court affirming the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman over the case involving the respondent," Desierto said.

Arrest warrant

Laurel was deemed the most senior official responsible for the so-called Freedom Ring scam that saw an alleged overprice in the facility's roof. The incident happened during the term of President Fidel V. Ramos and attempts to link him to the controversy were shot down by an investigating commission.

Laurel, Desierto said, was found by the Ombudsman's evaluation and preliminary investigation bureau to have violated Section 3(e) of the Anti-Graft Law for allegedly causing undue injury to the government after he awarded the Freedom Ring contract to a private firm without a public bidding.

Laurel also allegedly issued a notice to proceed with the construction even before the contract was executed, Desierto said.

Once the charges are filed in court, the Ombudsman will push for the immediate issuance of a warrant of arrest for Laurel. "The court will (be the one to) determine if there is probable cause to issue a warrant of arrest," Desierto said.

In a 17-page resolution promulgated on Dec. 4, 2000, Desierto said that Laurel, as chair of the National Centennial Commission and the Philippine Centennial Exposition '98 Corp. (Expocorp), caused undue injury to the government and gave unwarranted advantage to a private party when he awarded the Freedom Ring project to Asia Construction Development Authority (AK).

Desierto said results of the Ombudsman's preliminary investigation showed the project was awarded to AK "without the benefit of a competitive public bidding."

Down payment

"Further, it was found that the notice to proceed was prematurely issued in December 1996 when the contract was signed on April 4, 1997," he said.

Also, Desierto said, Laurel ordered the release of a 50 percent down payment to AK despite the Commission on Audit requirement that only a 15 percent down payment is allowed.

He said of the original P1.9-billion budget for the exposition project, about P248 million was allocated for the construction of the Freedom Ring, which contained a 35,000-seat amphitheater and a performance stage covered with a fabric roof.

To pursue the project, Desierto said, Expocorp invited selected contractors to pre-qualify for the design and construction of the Freedom Ring. He added that during the Expocorp board meeting on Dec. 19, 1996, representatives of the pre-qualified proponents made 15-minute presentations for the construction of the Freedom Ring.

Expansion

"Immediately thereafter, respondent Laurel, with the concurrence of the board, awarded the contract to AK without the benefit of a technical evaluation," Desierto said.

In a series of decisions from Nov. 5 to Dec. 6, 1996, Laurel allegedly made irregular changes in the original plan and increased the budget, from P248 million to P1.2 billion. Records showed that the change involved the expansion of the original scope of the fabric roof from an area of 2.8 hectares to cover the entire Freedom Ring.

Desierto said he could not yet rule on the liability of former President Ramos in the matter, since the Commission on Audit has yet to submit a complete audit report of the Centennial Expo project.

AFP signs new weapons deals

By Martin P. Marfil

IT WAS truly a happy birthday for Armed Forces chief of staff Gen. Roy Cimatu the other day when he signed two contracts worth P370-million toward the modernization of the Philippine military.

Thursday was Cimatu's 56th birthday.

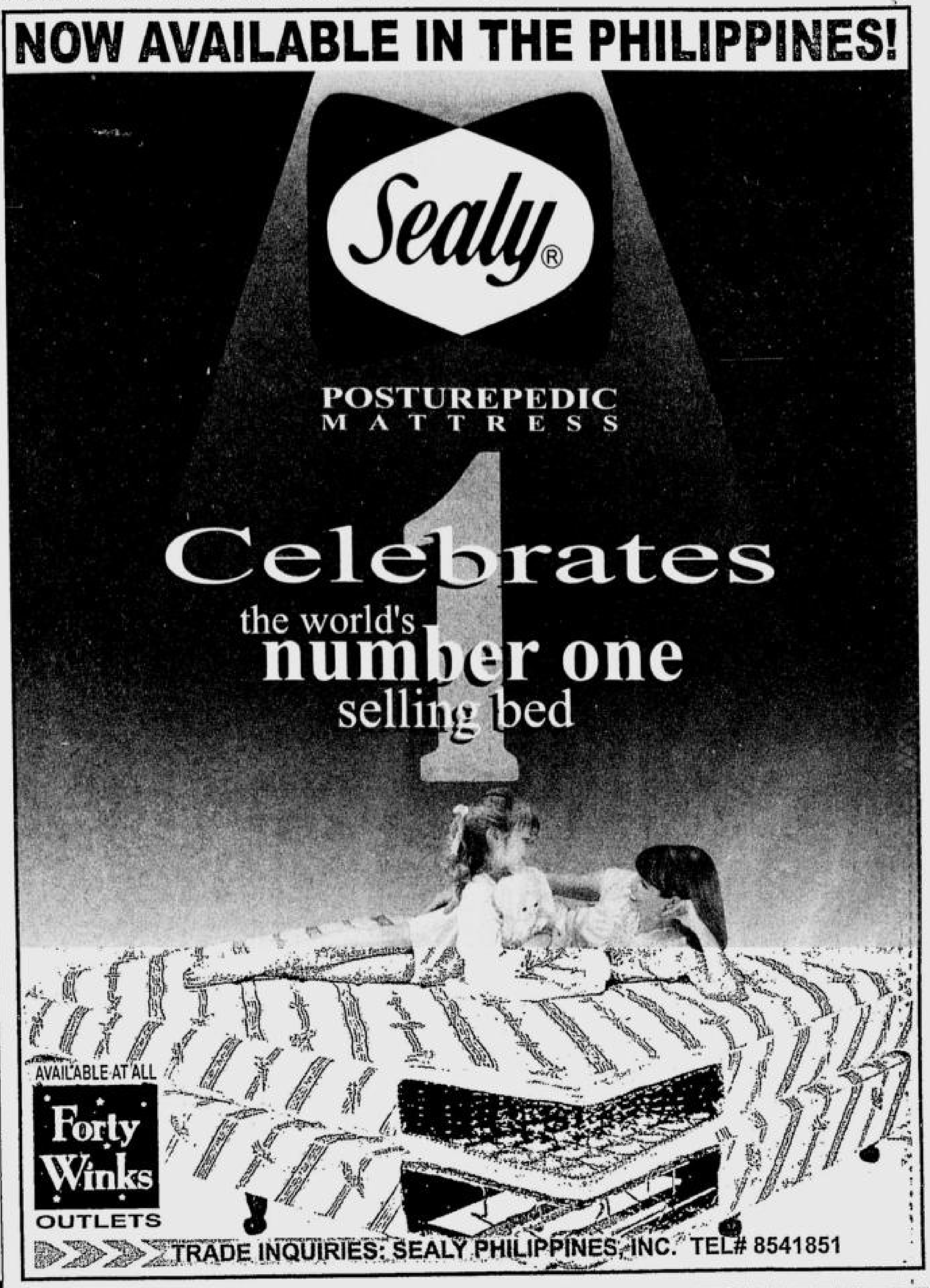
The first contract involved the upgrading of the weapons systems of the three "Peacock class" patrol ships delivered earlier by the United Kingdom to the Philippines.

The upgrading would cost P270 million for the installation of more 25-mm guns and control platforms on the boats.

"This will enhance the present capability of the Philippine Navy to support the conduct of internal security operations," a Navy press statement said.

The second contract involves the acquisition of 100 Squad Automatic Weapons from the Belgian firm FN Herstal. It is worth P100 million.

The weapons upgrade on the Peacock class ships, now called Jacinto class patrol vessels, was a government-to-government deal between the Philippines and the UK through QinetiQ Ltd.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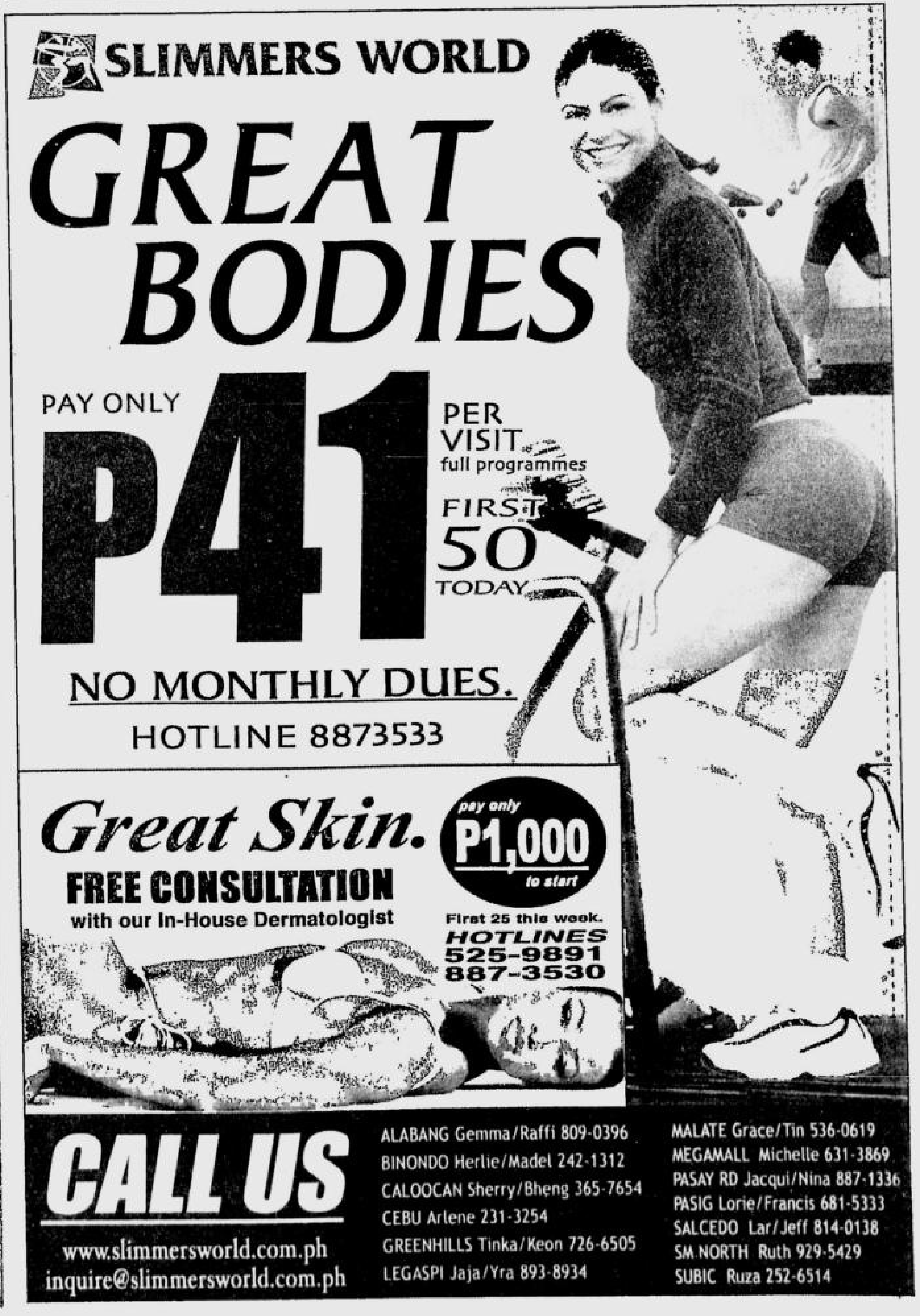
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Abalos: Comelec now a 'happy family'

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY —A "happy family," at least before the public and the cameras, is what officials of Commission on Elections tried to project here on Wednesday to show that the factional strife that had plagued the poll agency was a thing of the past.

In a press conference, the seven commissioners were seen joking and smiling, a far cry from the squabbling group that had nearly paralyzed the poll body just months ago.

"We are prepared to hold the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections tomorrow," said Comelec chair Benjamin Abalos, to show that the agency was on top of things for the July 15 synchronized polls.

That was when he quipped that the poll body was now a "happy family."

"We held our session here outside Metro Manila for the first time since martial law to learn how ready we are for the coming elections," he said.

"*Wala nang* (No more) gang of four but a *barkadahan* (gang) of seven," Abalos said, referring to the four commissioners who had been constantly at odds with Abalos's predecessor Alfredo Benipayo.

"The concept of the gang of four had been projected in the media mainly because of the division that characterized the commission in the past," said Commissioner Mehol Sadain, one of the four.

He said it was unfortunate the media had "fallen prey to name calling." He said the two blocs (in the Comelec) were formed "by virtue of the votes they made."

He said the problems have been resolved because Abalos has proven to be "a good father."

Commissioner Luzviminda Tancangco, the recognized leader of the "gang of four," said the problems are a thing of the past. "*Wala na yun* (That's over now), so far."

She stressed that her squabbles with Benipayo had been about "substantive issues and were not personal."

She also brushed aside accusations that she had derailed the modernization program of the commission, calling it an "utter lie."

She said she could not have derailed the modernization program, as it was Benipayo who suspended the project.

Abalos, former Mandaluyong City mayor and former chair of the Metro Manila Development Authority, called the nearly 200 Comelec officials in Western Visayas who attended the three-day workshop here "front-liners."

He promised to give them a per diem of P1,500 for official visits to Manila. He also announced that a mobilization fund and additional allowances would be given to election officers assigned to far-flung areas.

Australia doesn't want balanced trade—Lorenzo

DAVAO CITY—Australia's continued refusal to allow the entry of Philippine bananas only indicates that it does not want to have a balanced trade with the country, a Malacañang official said.

Luis Lorenzo Jr., presidential assistant on Jobs Creation, said Australia has been using phyto-sanitary issues to deny the importation of Philippine bananas.

Lorenzo said Australia had no reason to bar the entry of Philippine bananas because the country's producers have been able to meet world standards of safety.

He pointed out that local bananas have penetrated the international market because they have been proven safe.

He cited as an example his family's own Lapanday Foods Corp. (LFC), a major banana producer, which has been issued an ISO certification.

He said LFC has also received a Safety Quality Food (SQF) certification. The company also employs the "most knowledgeable" scientists capable of meeting Australia's requirements, he added.

"We are actually the benchmark for the country, so where is the sincerity (on Australia's part)?" Lorenzo asked.

He said the only recourse for the country is to file a complaint before the World Trade Organization.

Last week, the Philippines' bid to export bananas to Australia was rejected anew after an import risk analysis (IRA) issued by that country's bio-security unit.

Australia claimed that Philippine bananas might bring in Moko, a disease that could threaten its own plants.

But Francisco Lorenzo, LFC vice president for plantation, agriculture and operations, said chances of Moko entering Australia "is very minimal."

In contrast, the Philippines imports a sizable chunk of Australia's dairy and meat exports *Joel B. Escovilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Decide now, high court orders Sandigan on coco levy issue

By Michael Lim Ubac

DO the coco levy funds belong to the government, or to businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco? The Supreme Court yesterday ordered the Sandiganbayan to rule on the issue once and for all.

Expressing dismay over the failure of relieved Sandigan Presiding Justice Francis Garchitorena to resolve the cases, the high tribunal gave the anti-graft court a final six months to resolve the question.

"This controversy has straddled our courts for the last 15 years," the SC reminded the Sandiganbayan.

In a full court resolution signed by Assistant Clerk of Court Ma. Luisa Villarama, the SC told the Sandigan First Division, through acting chair Gregory Ong, to proceed with the cases, and not wait for Garchitorena.

Garchitorena was relieved last September due to "serious delays" in the resolution of cases in his sala. Previous to this, the SC had ordered the Sandiganbayan, through Garchitorena, to decide within six months on civil cases involving United Coconut Planters Bank shares of stock in Cojuangco's name.

The stocks had been sequestered by the Presidential Commission on Good Government during the Aquino administration.

After Garchitorena's relief, Go said, he could not resolve the cases because he was constrained to await Garchitorena's action on pending motions.

The SC assured Ong yesterday there was "no impediment, whether legal or practical," for the present composition of the Sandigan First Division to decide on the controversy and that, in fact, immediate action was "imperative."

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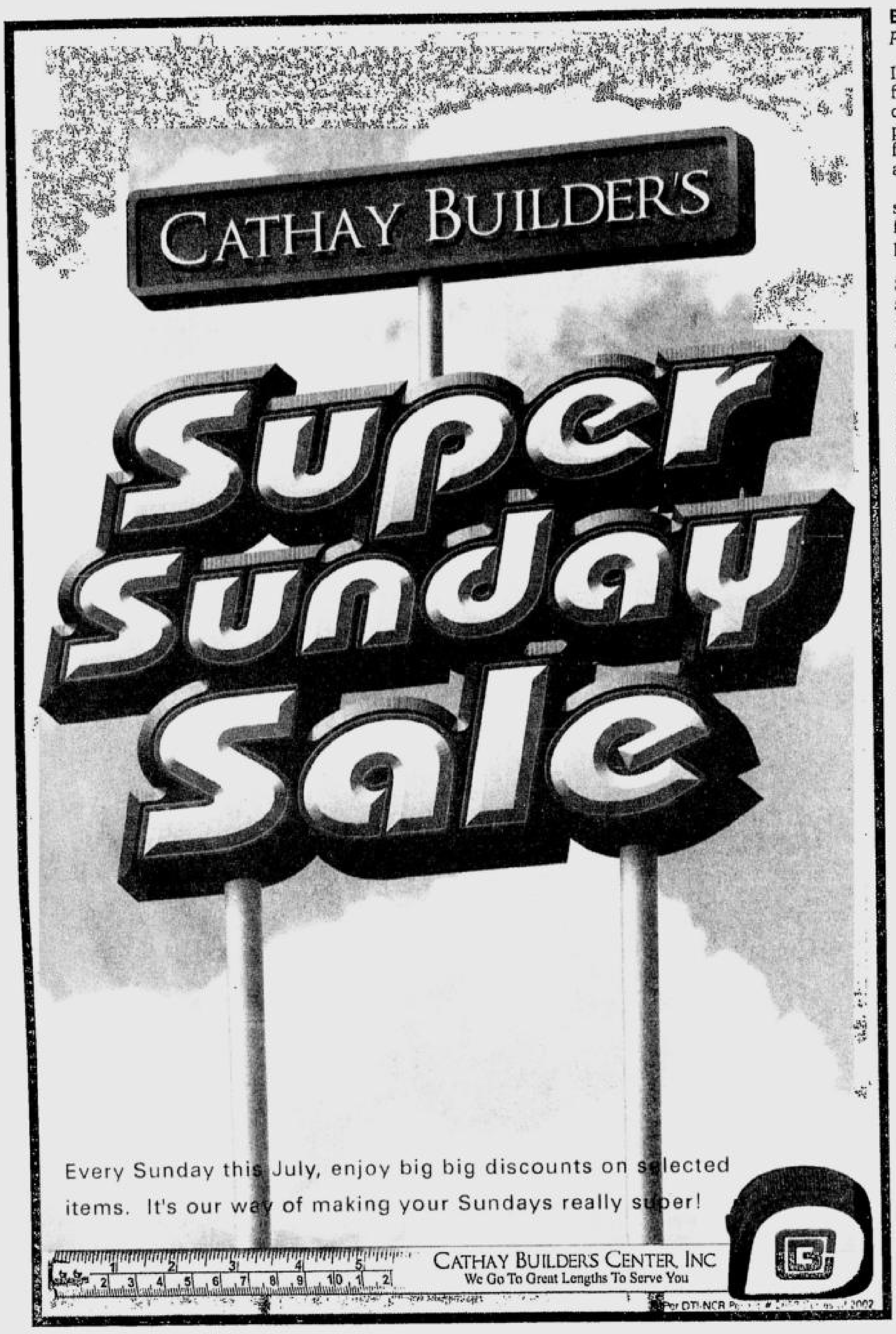

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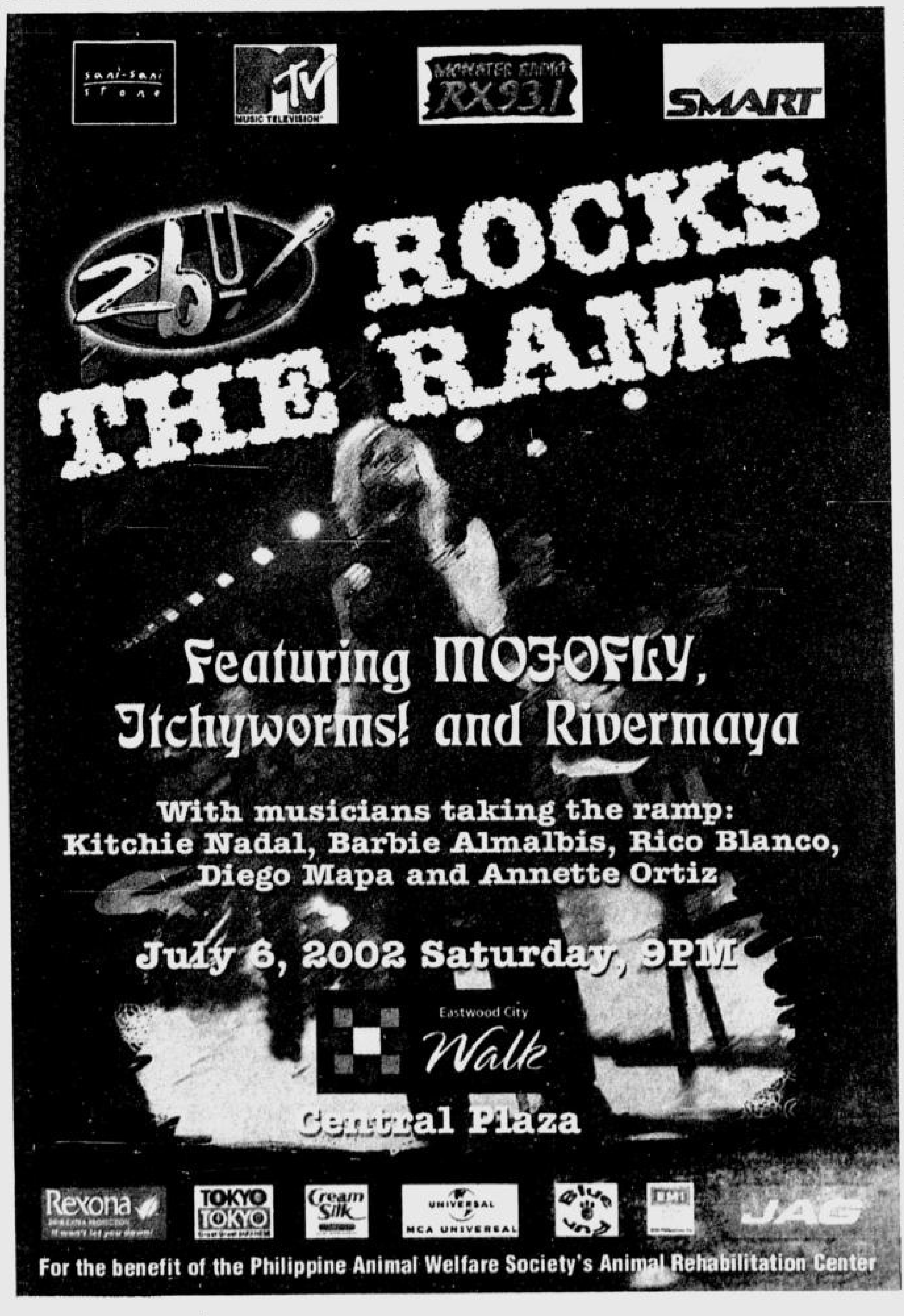

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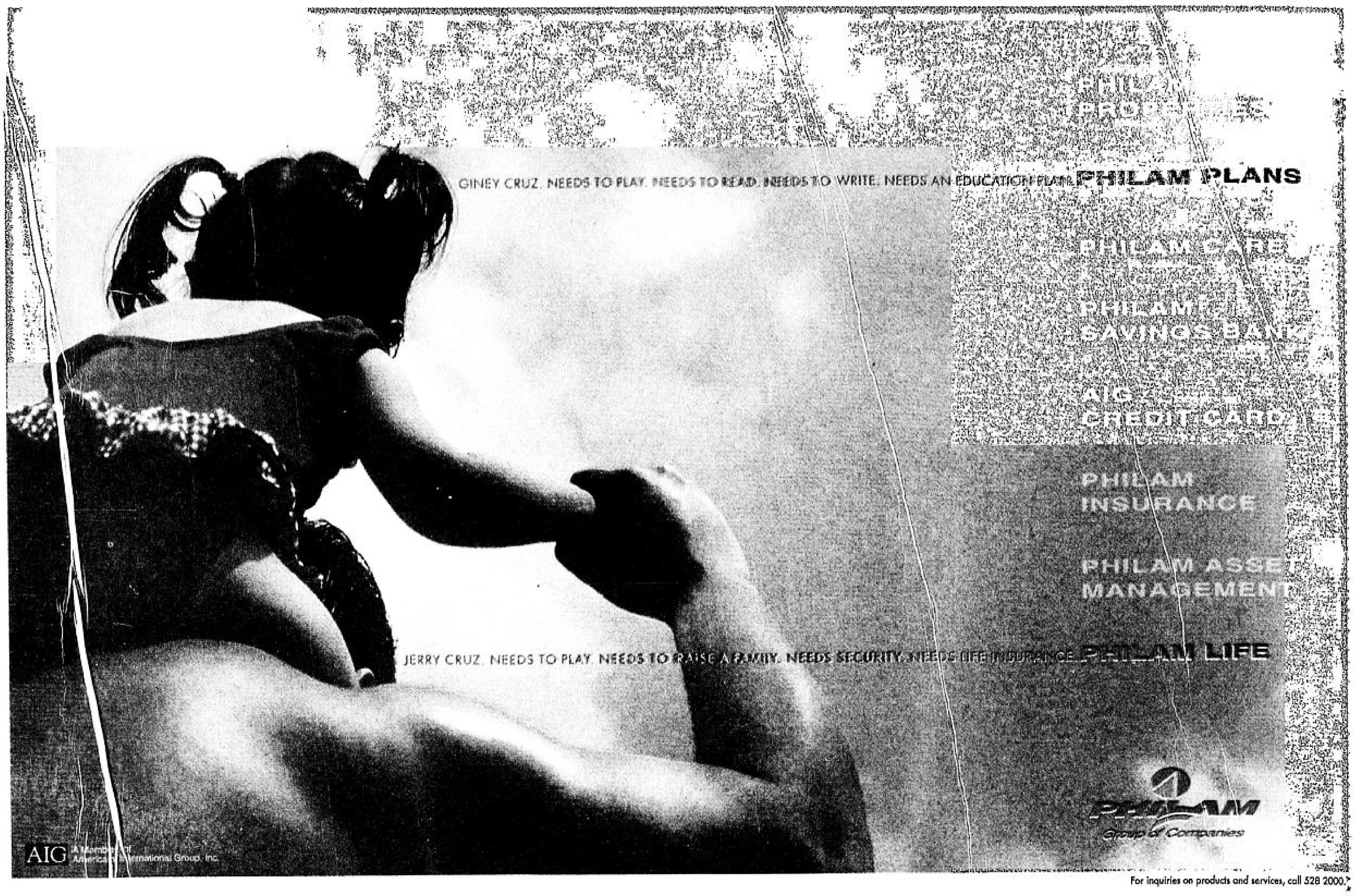
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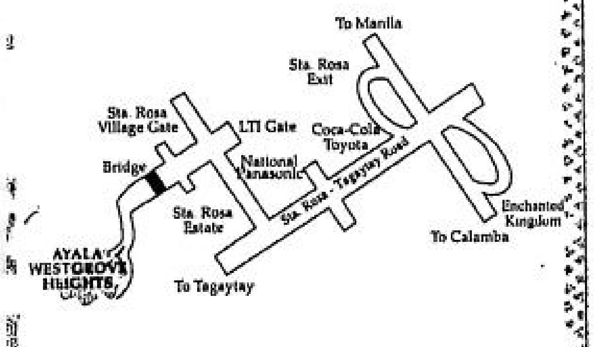
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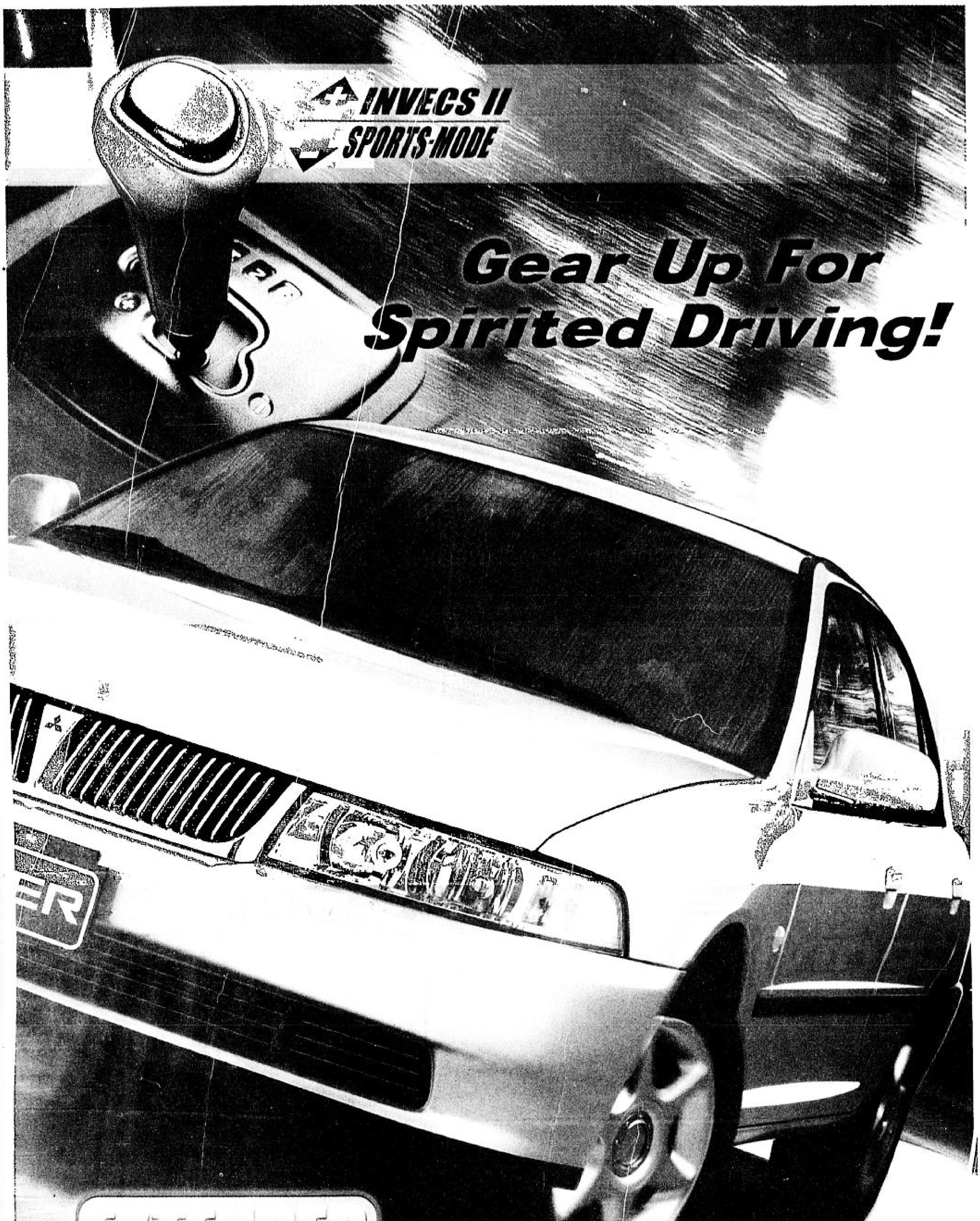

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Exempt cops, others from hiring freeze, Recto insists

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE GOVERNMENT must not stop recruiting new policemen, teachers and doctors despite the huge budget deficit and a hiring freeze.

Sen. Ralph Recto said yesterday these vital personnel should be exempt from any austerity measures of the government.

Congress has allocated funds for the recruitment of 4,000 policemen, 20,000 teachers and 50 physicians for doctor-less barrios this year.

"But if there is a moratorium in their hiring, then we might as well shut down the government," Recto said. "No government is too poor to recruit teachers. Even dirt-poor Afghanistan has money for new cops and instructors."

According to Recto, the runaway budget deficit should not trigger the suspension of the government program to address the shortage of teachers, policemen and doctors.

A hiring freeze is among the measures the government is taking to tame the deficit, which soared above target levels to P107.5 billion in the first five months of the year.

Recto said P353.5 million had been earmarked in the General Appropriations Act of 2002 for the pay, training and equipment of 4,000 new police officers.

All the rookie police, he said, will pound beats outside Metro Manila.

Funding authority has also been given to the Department of Education to hire 15,000 classroom teachers and 5,000 non-academic personnel, he said.

DAR to take Cojuangcos' 600-has.

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Notices on the compulsory acquisition of some 600 hectares owned by the Cojuangco family in Tarlac will be served in two weeks to end the three-year delay in the distribution of the land to farmers on those estates, a Department of Agrarian Reform official said Thursday.

The DAR opted to buy the properties on behalf of the farmers on the heels of the refusal of the Cojuangcos to sign the deed of land transfer, according to Renato Herrera, DAR chief in Central Luzon.

"We want it rushed," Herrera said of the implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) in those landholdings.

The families of former President Corazon Aquino and businessman Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. are among the owners of the parcels covered by CARP, he said.

The 600 hectares were originally covered by a Voluntary Land Transfer (VLT), which requires landowners to directly deal with possible beneficiaries.

Farmers groups, however, have criticized the VLT, saying it allowed the owners to retain the properties through ghost or bogus beneficiaries.

Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Lauriaga burial

THE LATE Irene "Nene" Rojas-Lauriaga, who died on June 30, will be laid to rest today, Saturday, at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City, after the 1 p.m. mass at Solace 2 chapel of the Arlington Funeral Homes on Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Lauriaga is survived by her children Ched, Met, Flor, Nida, Lody and Oscar, sons-in-law Biyo, Bert, Pete and Rolly; grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Bishops meet under cloud of sexual misdeeds issue

THE COUNTRY'S Catholic bishops start a three-day annual plenary meeting today, with the issue of sexual misconduct by the clergy and how the Church should respond to it casting a disturbing shadow on the assembly.

On the eve of the meeting, the former head of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) issued a call for the immediate punishment of erring priests.

"When grave and scandalous offenses within her (the Church) fold are done, she cannot but apply the necessary penalties. This is (in accordance with) the dictates of faith and morals, the demands of justice and truth," said Dagupan Archbishop Orlando Cruz.

To Church observers, Cruz's statement had the effect of setting the tone for the 85th CBCP Plenary Assembly in Tagaytay where a discussion of the proposed "protocol on cases of sexual offenses by priests" is to be held.

Cruz's views are believed to clash with those of the present CBCP president, Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, and other "conservative" bishops who are reportedly advocating a less radical approach.

Cruz also urged Roman Catholics to report priests who commit sexual offenses to prevent scandals similar to those that have shaken the Church in the United States and elsewhere.

Cruz said sexual scandals buffeting US Catholicism were a "clear and loud wake-up call, particularly for the (Philippine Church) hierarchy."

"The laity should not only pray for their priests, they should also help them live holy lives," Cruz said.

However, Cruz appealed to the public to avoid a witchhunt, stressing that there should be "no anonymous letters, no gossip" about alleged priestly misdeeds.

The scandals in the United States have brought greater attention to incidents in the Philippines where priests allegedly sexually abused parishioners or had mistresses.

But while certain priests "had fallen by the wayside," the rest of the Philippine Church has remained faithful to their vows, said Cruz.

He said the Church has set definite sanctions for priests who violate "his commitment to continence or his obligation to celibacy."

The proposed mode of punishment is dismissal from the priesthood, by which the erring priest would be stripped of his rights and privileges as a cleric, suspension from carrying out priestly acts, and being deprived of assignments.

"Molesting women and children, fornication and adultery, concubinage, having children out of wedlock, and the like ... all these rightfully demand not only ecclesiastical penalties but also civil or criminal sanctions," Cruz said.

He said a priest who believes that he can no longer follow the vow of celibacy "may openly and formally ask for a dispensation from his priestly obligations."

In the past 20 years, Cruz said he had helped 116 priests obtain such a dispensation for reasons ranging from "being morally coerced into entering the seminary to inaptitude for continence and celibacy."

"There is not a single pedophile among them yet," he said. ***With a report from AFP***

Court keeps anti-PPA hopes alive

By Ronnel W. Domingo

THE CONSUMERS' alliance Abolish PPA! Coalition (Appac) gained a respite yesterday in its battle with the National Power Corp. over the controversial purchase power adjustment after a Pasig court denied Napocor's motion to dismiss the suit against the collection of the PPA.

Napocor had questioned the court's jurisdiction over the complaint, arguing that the consumer group should have filed this with the Energy Regulatory Commission.

In a three-page decision, Judge Alfredo C. Flores of Pasig RTC Branch 167 said the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira) itself makes clear that the ERC's jurisdiction only pertains to cases of contested rates, fees, fines and penalties it imposed.

"The issue in this proceeding is the validity and constitutionality of Section 34 of the Epira authorizing the charging and collection of the disputed PPA (which will be converted to the universal charge)," Flores said.

The judge said it was a good time for the court to determine the validity of the law's provision vis-a-vis the rights of consumers.

The 40-organization Appac had insisted that their case was a question of the Bill of Rights being violated and not merely of exorbitant power rates.

Co-petitioner Alain Pascua, chair of the Katipunan ng mga Anak ng Bayan, said in a telephone interview that Appac would go on to ask for an injunction against the PPA now that the court has accepted the case.

"This far outweighs the RTC's denial last month of a restraining order against the collection of the PPA," Pascua told the INQUIRER.

He explained that respondents Napocor and the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) had scored a victory when the court ruled against Appac's motion for a reconsideration of the TRO decision.

Napocor general counsel Ranier Butalid, meanwhile, in an interview said the power firm was still contemplating its next move.

Butalid said "yes" when asked if Napocor was in for a long drawn-out legal battle.

"We have to go through the presentation of evidence and everything else that the court would require," he said.

Tight Tesda rules to be reviewed

By Blanche S. Rivera

THE NEW chief of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) intends to review the policies of his predecessor relating to the new rules governing the training of entertainers to be sent overseas.

Tesda director general Dante Liban said he would like to find out why former Tesda head Lucita Lazo had approved only nine out of 45 centers that would train Filipinos intending to work abroad as entertainers.

Liban said he has been meeting with the Association of Concerned Artists of the Philippines, the venue owners and even the testing officers regarding their views on the new rules.

He said the stakeholders in the entertainment industry were not happy with the new rules which are said to be very stringent and had been strongly opposed by talent managers.

Liban said he would like to know what Lazo's criteria were for approving the nine training centers.

Lazo had said that the nine centers had been recommended by the industry players themselves because they provided "commendable" training and had not been "corrupted" by the artists and talent managers.

She said that corruption was prevalent in the deployment of artists. Some applicants who did not meet the requirements would pay P50,000 to pass the assessment test and be given their artists' record books.

Liban said he might recommend amendments to the implementing rules and regulations of department order No. 10 once he completes the round of consultations.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Saturday, July 6, 2002
13th Week in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Am 9:11-15
Gospel: Mt 9:14-17

The disciples of John came to him with the question, "How is it that we and the Pharisees fast on many occasions, but not your disciples?"

Jesus answered them, "How can you expect wedding guests to mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? Time will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, then they will fast.

No one patches an old coat with a piece of unshrunken cloth, for the patch will shrink and tear an even bigger hole in the coat. Besides you don't put new wine in old wineskins. If you do, the wineskins will burst and the wine be spilt. No, you put new wine in fresh skins; then both are preserved."

Commentary

To see Jesus in a joyful mood accompanied by a group of disciples who are not fasting was unacceptable to the Pharisees and the disciples of John the Baptist. It was not the way they expected him to be. When the rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar emphasized human aspects in the life of Jesus, people with more "serious" understanding about Jesus felt terribly bad and full of anger. Anger, not because the production was offensive to Christ, but because it offended their image of Christ. As humans, we have the unconscious tendency to consider absolute whatever has been good in our past experiences. Our peculiar world view and particular sensitivity may also grow old and get dry, inflexible, like the wineskins mentioned in the gospel. The new wine of a living God surprises us, challenging us to a new life.

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SUPREME COURT GUIDELINES

CIVIL LAW (LAND TITLES AND DEEDS)—Action for reconveyance— An action based on implied or constructed trust prescribes in 10 years from the time of its creation or upon the alleged fraudulent registration of the property. Petitioner's action in the court below was basically one of reconveyance. It was filed 61 years after the title was issued and 44 years after its reconstitution. The failure of petitioner and his father to assert ownership of the land for over 60 years during which the respondent was in possession is simply contrary to their claim of ownership. Petitioner and his father's long inaction or passivity in asserting their rights over disputed property will preclude them from recovering the same. Neither petitioner nor his father held a valid title over the land. There was no showing that petitioner's father owned the land at the time of his demise so as to bequeath the same to petitioner as his sole heir. The rule is firmly settled that an action for re-conveyance based on fraud must be filed within 10 years from discovery of the fraud which as to titled lands referred to the registration of the title with the register of deeds. An action for reconveyance is a legal remedy granted to a landowner whose property has been wrongfully or erroneously registered in another's name, but then the action must be filed within 10 years from the issuance of the title since such issuance operates as a constructive notice. In addition, the action is barred by laches because of the long delay before the filing of the case. [Citations omitted.] [*En Banc*, Justice Pardo, Alonso v. Cebu Country Club, Inc., G.R. No. 130876, January 31, 2002]

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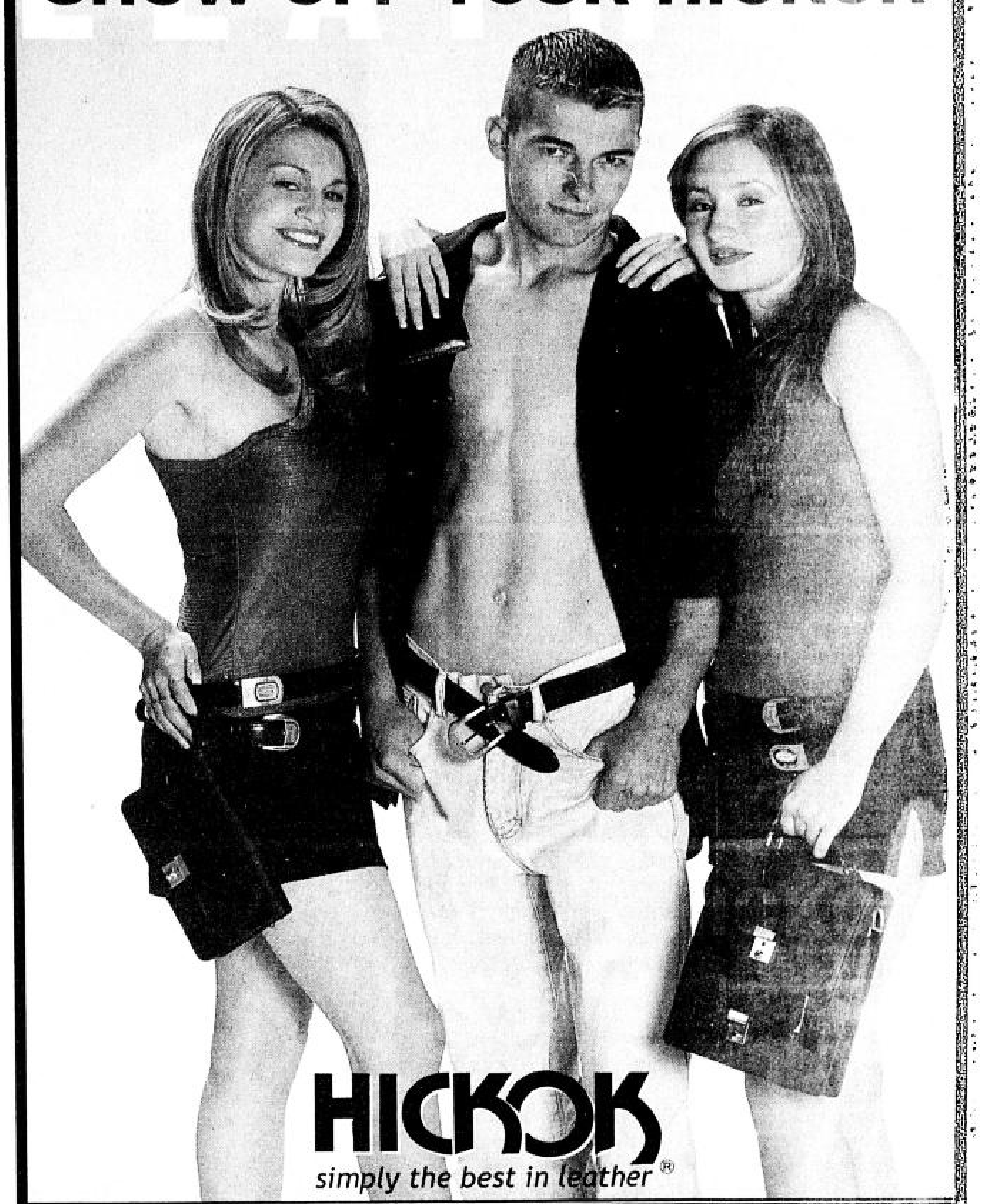

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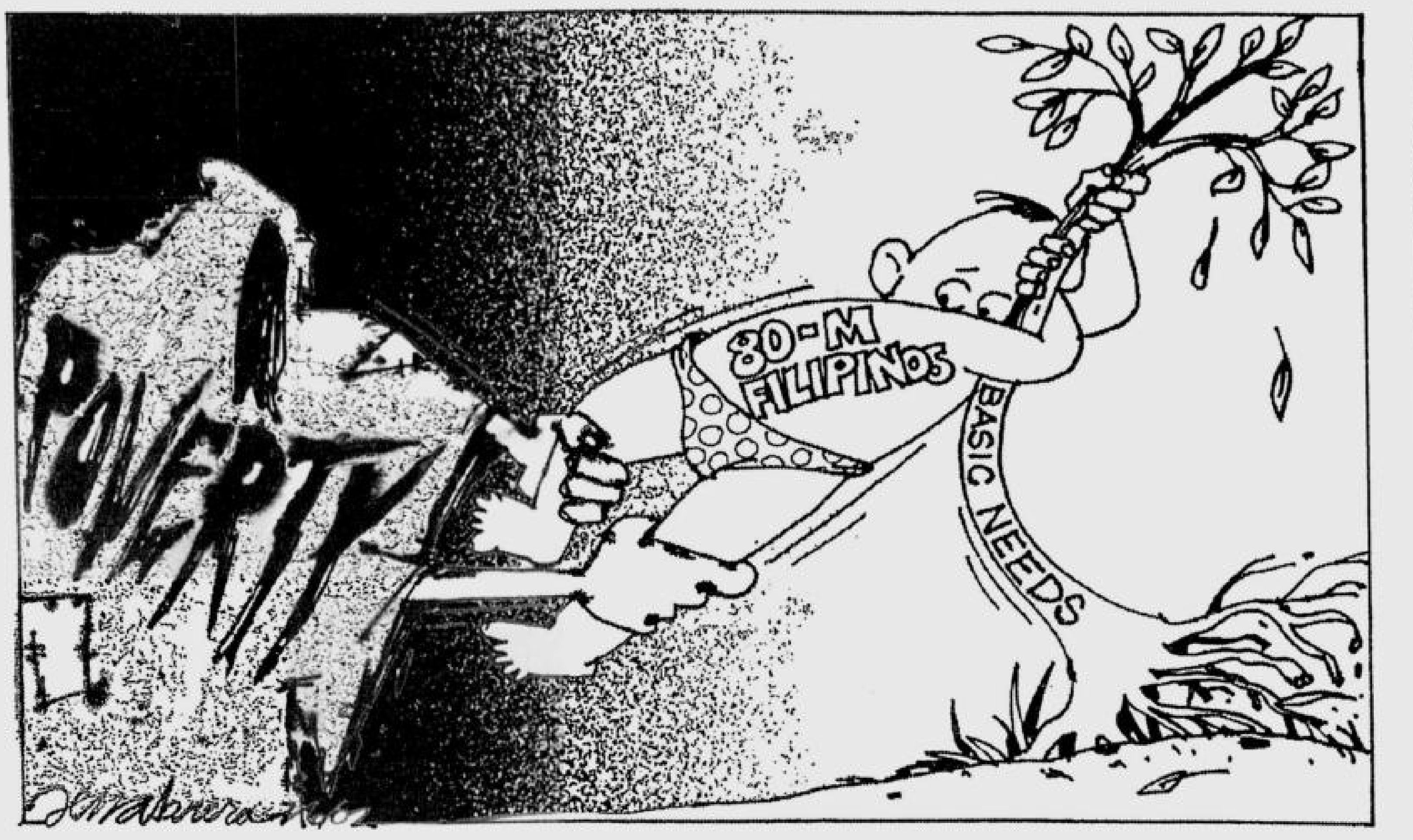

Accent on consensus

EDITORIAL

IN THE PAST three months, two public opinion surveys have been published, showing a growing dissatisfaction among Filipinos over the way democracy works.

The Social Weather Stations, in a survey done last May, found that only 35 percent of its respondents were satisfied with Filipino democracy. What's unsettling is that there was a 9 percentage point decline in satisfaction, from 44 percent in March, a period of only three months.

By contrast, the survey found, a majority of Filipinos were satisfied with how democracy works from 1992 to mid-1999. By October 1999, disenchantment had set in, with only 47 percent satisfied, compared to 61 percent in June 1999.

An earlier survey conducted by former University of the Philippines president Jose V. Abueva in November 2001, but released only last May, caught signals of disenchantment over the way democracy worked in this country.

At the time, 42 percent of Filipinos disagreed with the statement that "I am satisfied with the way democracy works in our country," and only 34 percent agreed. In answer to the related question, "I am proud of the system of government of the Philippines," 43 percent disagreed and 32 percent agreed.

The SWS survey of November 2001 (parallel to that of Abueva's), found 44 percent satisfied, constituting a minority of Filipinos.

Abueva's survey, however, had some reassuring and disquieting qualifications. While 72 percent affirmed that "democracy is still the best political system in all circumstances," 72 percent also agreed with the possibility that Filipinos "will completely lose faith in peaceful means of promoting democracy."

This qualification is important because it underlines the need for Philippine democracy to be functional as a vehicle for reform and better governance. If we examine the findings of the SWS, the years in which a majority were satisfied with the way democracy works encompassed the Ramos administration and the first two years of the Estrada administration. Popular satisfaction with democracy may be explained by the fact that during the Ramos years, the nation enjoyed a period of political stability and sustained economic growth until the mid-1997 Asian financial crisis. Economic recovery took place in a milieu of political stability, allowing the country to move up to the category of a new Asian economic miracle.

The decline in satisfaction began in October 1999, during which time the Estrada administration began to be buffeted by problems of governance and tainted by corruption scandals. The Estrada administration was also shaken by political turmoil, an environment in which democratic institutions and processes were breaking down and the economy slowed down.

Dissatisfaction with the way democracy works dogged the Macapagal administration. In May 2002, the SWS survey found that the level of satisfaction plunged to 35 percent, from 44 percent in November 2001. This is not surprising. Because of the nature of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's assumption of the presidency through people power and the questions over her legitimacy, she presided over a period of political instability where democratic institutions were not able to mediate political conflict.

The survey findings have given rise to anxieties that Filipinos are losing faith in democracy and may be disposed toward embracing a new authoritarianism that can instill national discipline and cohesion, to replace the prevailing anarchic political impasse. It is even argued that if a charismatic man on horseback emerges to restore law and order, Filipinos would welcome this new messianic savior.

The failed Marcos dictatorship has left a deep scar that reminds the people of the drawbacks of authoritarianism. We gave authoritarianism a bad name because it fostered widespread human rights violations and extensive corruption.

Democracy has not served the country well because Filipinos have not used the concept of freedom to achieve consensus and to deliver results in terms of economic progress and good governance. But it's wrong for people with messianic inclinations, including the so-called "third force" and coup plotters, to read into the surveys signs that the time is ripening for a new authoritarianism.

What the surveys tell us is that we have to replace anarchic Filipino-style democracy that emphasizes conflict and individualism, with a democracy that puts the accent on consensus.

The end of the affair

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE PUBLIC was not amused by the recent confusion caused by a letter signed by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo accepting the resignation of Vice President Teofisto Guingona as foreign secretary. Guingona said he had not resigned, and Malacañang immediately withdrew the letter. The lame reason was that it was not really meant to be sent. The acting press secretary apologized for the mix-up but did not explain why the letter was written at all.

The following day, Guingona announced he was quitting the Cabinet and running for president in 2004. It appeared that he had a previous agreement with Ms Macapagal that he would resign before the opening of the next regular session of Congress but the date was unilaterally advanced by Malacañang. She had been tipped that Guingona would attack her policies in the address he was scheduled to deliver before the Manila Overseas Press Club. The President wanted to beat him to the punch.

That tip was wrong, as it turned out, but the harm had been done. Press Secretary Silvestre Afable had to be the scapegoat for the contretemps, but of course it was his boss who was responsible. Nobody doubted that; the President did not deny signing the controversial letter. It would not have been written at all if it was meant to be only an exercise in English composition.

The events of June 27 emphasize one remarkable trait of President Macapagal, her impulsiveness. Significantly, it was fueled that day by her ready acceptance of information that turned out to be false. Her panicked reaction raises the question of that calmness under fire that is expected of the highest official in the land. Her supposed unflappability was clearly absent when, relying on the unverified tip, she accepted Guingona's resignation before it was tendered.

What if we were at war and our commander in chief acted as she did that day? At stake would be the very security of our country, not merely the fate of one department secretary. The excitability she demonstrated the other week could make us lose the war.

The President has a multitude of advisers in and outside her Cabinet, besides her partymates and professional publicists. Ms Macapagal apparently did not consult them or, if she did, did not follow their advice. The least she could have done was check the veracity of the information she received before accepting and acting on it. Her intelligence agents could have disabused her of the wrong signal.

Ms Macapagal apparently does not need the help of others to commit her own blunders. The opposition is gleefully taking advantage of *l'affaire* Guingona and the consequent division in the ranks of Lakas. Nothing could please Sen. Edgardo Angara more than to see its chair and its President emasculating each other in the next election. Joseph Estrada may yet have the last laugh.

The dominant Nacionalista Party under President Sergio Osmeña was weakened in 1946 with the secession of Senate President Manuel A. Roxas and his group, but the opposition at that time was not strong enough to seize power. The Liberal Party was split between President Elpidio Quirino and Senate President Jose Avelino in 1949, but the united Nacionalista Party under Jose P. Laurel was cheated at the polls.

As *de facto* leader of the opposition, Angara lacks the charisma that made Ms Macapagal trounce him decisively when they ran for vice president of the Philippines in 1998. He also heads a far from respectable group that includes a television comedian, a "propesterous" basketball player, the *balato* twins, and, no less questionable, a presidential aspirant who is also a candidate for the penitentiary. Three Senate committees have recommended his prosecution for drug trafficking, and reports from the US government belie his denials of his dollar deposits abroad.

This is not to say that the other side is simon-pure although it seems to be less unacceptable than its more disreputable antagonist. For one thing, it seems to be more moral than the other camp, if only because the latter is identified with the ousted Estrada administration. Most of the Drilon senators were against the fallen idol in the last election and during the impeachment trial.

There is also the important constitutional issue of the validity of the acts of the Senate after it was adjourned by Drilon, who is still its president. No less important is the view that the subsequent adjournment of the House of Representatives automatically immobilized the whole Congress, according to existing judicial doctrine.

The Macapagal-Guingona rift is nothing new in our political history. Vice President Salvador H. Laurel resigned as President Corazon Aquino's foreign secretary, and, earlier, Vice President Emmanuel Pelaez quit the same position over differences with President Diosdado Macapagal. They both remained in their constitutional offices, as so will Vice President Guingona although he was not directly elected by the people.

Guingona did the right thing in finally resigning as foreign secretary, albeit somewhat tardily. He didn't have to remain in the Cabinet where he could not support the President's policies, especially since Ms Macapagal could have, for that reason, validly ended his term at her pleasure and discretion. Both of them should be happy now.

The youth on the SK

COMMENTARY

Melanie P. Ramos
Institute on Church and Social Issues

ONLY 115 out of less than a thousand youth from our Barangay Project 6 in Quezon City are expected to participate in the Sangguniang Kabataan elections this month. This is according to kagawad Mario Nuñez who is actively involved in the preparations for the barangay elections in our area.

The dismal result of the recent youth registration only shows the youth's disinterest in participating in the SK, Nuñez explained. "I think these children are too young to be involved in politics," he added.

The low turnout of youth registrants in Project 6 is not different from the outcome in other barangays. These disheartening results tell us either of two things: the youth are not interested in politics, or they were not properly informed of the registration dates.

The SK or youth councils have been under fire lately due to their inefficient performance and failure to provide relevant programs for the youth in the barangay. Acting Press Secretary Silvestre C. Afable Jr. observed that the "SK has not shown results the past years."

Many people agree with this appraisal and believe that the SKs have done nothing to improve the youth's situation and harness their potentials. The youth themselves even ask if the SKs are still functional since most do not really have visible programs in the barangay.

The negative view on the SK is not only held by adults, but by the youth as well. In the recent Youth National Situationer prepared by the National Youth Commission, young people in various regions expressed disgust over the performance of the SKs. They feel that the SKs are "incompetent, inefficient and lack the vision to implement good programs." The youth lament that there are no visible projects in the barangay and they even wonder if the SKs still exist.

According to the Youth National Situationer, SK activities are often disrupted by political interventions. Many among the youth observe that SK leaders have become corrupt and are frequently used by local officials to carry out shady deals. Some SK officials were even arrested for drug pushing in their barangays in connivance with their adult relatives.

The youth also observe that SK representatives engage in partisan politics. One bewailed that children, relatives or followers of incumbent barangay officials are being put in the SK. "Sometimes power gets into the head of the SK chairman," he said.

SK elections are no different from regular elections of public officials. It has virtually become popularity contests for rich and ambitious young people.

The political immaturity of SK officials is evident to the youth. Some say that SK representatives sorely lack the vision and the skills to govern effectively.

Although the negative views far outnumber the positive, some people still think that abolishing these youth councils will do more harm than good. Sen. Francis Pangilinan opposed the abolition of the SK. He believes "the SK is a product of the years of struggle for the youth sector to be represented in government." He says local officials should be held accountable for the failure of the SK because they did not properly train youth leaders to face the challenge of public office.

Some young people share this point of view. "JVBoy" of Manila defended the SK saying, "*Kung isasawalang bahala natin ang SK, parang tinanggalan na rin natin ang ating sarili ng kalayaang magpahiwatig ng ating saloobin.*" He added that the failure of the SK is due to the wrong choice of youth leaders elected to office. The abolition of the SK is not the answer, but rather giving the youth leaders proper information on what they need to do to accomplish their tasks.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo favors the abolition of the SK. "The youth's duty is to work and study," she pointed out.

If the wave of discontent over the performance of the SK grows, we might soon find the youth councils gone, and the youth once more without a direct voice in government. The product of the youth's struggle for a chance to participate in governance will be discarded.

Pangilinan's observation that the failure of the SK is due to the young leaders' lack of skills to effectively govern is correct. Many young men and women holding political office are not trained adequately and are too young to govern.

It is no secret too that many barangays are seats of corruption and that barangay officials are not exactly paragons of virtue. What type of training can these officials give the youth if they themselves are not equipped with moral values and leadership skills? The reason for the inefficiency of the youth is not merely their political immaturity or their youth, but also the absence of proper role models to guide them in governing effectively.

The youth want to contribute to the development and prosperity of the country. They have the potentials to become good leaders of this nation. What they need are opportunities and skills to harness these potentials and put them to good use. They also need proper formation on basic values that govern ethical leadership and public service.

These they can most certainly get from virtuous and decent adult models. The lack of vision of the youth stems from the lack of vision of their adult counterparts. How the youth are is a reflection of what we adults have done to this nation. And what we have done so far doesn't augur well for the future of our young men and women.

Ople tells why

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

WHILE civility was wanting in the Palace's treatment of Vice President and outgoing Foreign Secretary Teofisto Guingona last week, he got a generous dose of it at the US Embassy reception for their Independence Day last July 4. DFA sources said that earlier in the day, US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone was calling the office of Guingona to ask him to deliver the traditional toast at the reception. The Vice President had plans of going out of town to celebrate his 74th birthday that day. But the weather turned nasty and Guingona canceled his plans. In the afternoon, the US ambassador was again on the phone, asking Guingona to come, and DFA sources said the Vice President thought, why not? His presence at that reception would be a political statement, especially since it was well-known that he had differences with the *Kano* and his own President over the handling of the Balikatan exercises and the Mutual Logistic Support Agreement. In his extemporaneous remarks at the toast, Guingona gently stressed again a point he made at the Manila Overseas Press Club: "I am not anti-American; I am pro-Filipino."

On the other hand, Ricciardone doubtless was eager to show Washington that the Vice President's presence at the reception was an indication that US-RP relations were not too bad. And to show his appreciation, he had a birthday cake rolled in and everyone in the hall sang "Happy Birthday" to the Vice President.

* * *

Former Foreign Secretary Roberto Romulo has tried to downplay his role at the DFA, but his latest statement to the media from Madrid seemed to accomplish the opposite, showing how important is his role there. Part of the statement said that the question of who'd be the best replacement for Guingona was "really a matter of compatibility and body chemistry." Romulo appears to be the embodiment of this dictum: his rapport with GMA seems to be perfect.

The question is, would Sen. Blas Ople be more compatible and have that body chemistry with GMA? At first blush, it's difficult to see this. As Amando Doronila has noted, Guingona, who still plays singles tennis to this day, obviously has more energy to match the hyperactive President than Ople, whom many in the gallery often caught napping during the Senate impeachment trial, and yet there seems to be a great divide between the two top officials.

But Ople himself said in a recent column in the Manila Bulletin that there could be a lot of compatibility between him and the President. He wrote that as a fellow senator, GMA was "impressed" with his work as chair of the Senate foreign relations committee, especially during the hearings on two landmark treaties, the World Trade Organization and the Visiting Forces Agreement. He also recalled that he and GMA sponsored RP's membership in the GATT Uruguay Round which created the WTO, in the course of which GMA "shone as a brilliant economist."

I remember that occasion very well. At one point, Ople became sick and GMA had to handle everything and acquitted herself well. Although she had a famous name, that sponsorship fixed her in the public mind. Now it may be said that in appointing Ople to the DFA, she is returning the favor he gave her many years ago.

* * *

Lawyer Demaree Raval, Sen. Edgardo Angara's protégé and enforcer in the Senate, cooked up a pretty obvious plot recently, doubtless in order to endear him even more to his boss. Using his contested claim to the post of Senate secretary, Raval produced a letter supposedly coming from a group of La Salle students, asking his office to conduct a survey among the Senate media on the performance of the senators. Conducted last Wednesday and Thursday, the survey generated a feeble response from the reporters, and I surmise that this was because they saw through the hidden agenda. Previous attempts to conduct a similar survey had failed because the reporters were smart enough not to allow themselves to be used for partisan purposes. The "results" of Raval's survey are expected to be released soon by his office, and everyone's betting it will show the opposition senators, led by Angara, "outperforming" their colleagues in the pro-administration bloc.

* * *

A lovely lady passed away a few weeks back at age 92. She was Consuelo Eclavea Lim de Morato, widow of Quezon City's first mayor, Tomas B. Morato, and mother of former MTRCB Chair Manuel L. Morato and five other siblings. A native of Calauag, the Centro Escolar-educated Doña Consuelo was a candidate of the teachers in her province in the "Miss Quezon Province" competition, which she won. That's when she caught the eye of the widower who was very close to President Manuel Quezon. After they got married, she became very active in the women's groups as wife of the city mayor.

When she was widowed at age of 52, Consuelo turned her energies entirely to raising her family. Her maternal devotion was repaid by her children, most especially Manoling, who lived next door. His filial devotion became legendary. He would come home from the office every day to eat lunch with her. At the funeral Mass, he said that "no matter how much we do for our loved ones, it never seems enough."

As his mother's condition worsened, Manoling never left her side. He begged God to give her just two or three years more, but if that was not to be, he prayed that her death would not happen in the middle of the night, "for somehow the darkness of night lends more pain." That second wish was granted: Doña Consuelo died peacefully at 8:20 a.m. on the last Friday of May.

Getting what we pay for

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

AS A society, there's no doubting our commitment to, and indeed love of, education. Filipino parents will sacrifice anything, even leave their families to work abroad, just to achieve the ultimate dream: a good education for their children who will then use their learning to lift their families from the trap of poverty.

But this sentiment also translates into the expectation that education, especially higher education, is a right and entitlement, one that should be provided free to anyone who desires a college degree.

This may account for the ability of some people—mostly students but also some politicians and public figures—to speak out of both sides of their mouths on the issue of education. On one hand, they decry the deteriorating state of our educational system: Filipino students ranking way down in regional competency tests especially in science and math, the blunting of our vaunted competitive edge in English, and the general deterioration in the quality of both students and teachers.

And yet, even as they bemoan the erosion of the educational system, these same folk vigorously oppose any measure that may allow educators, both public and private, to address the problem. When owners of private schools raise tuition so they can pay their teachers better, improve facilities and raise standards, they are denounced as "greedy" capitalists. When administrators of state-owned colleges and universities seek to address funding shortfalls not by raising tuition but by allowing development of part of their land grants, they are greeted by pickets and rallies denouncing them for "selling out" and allowing merchants to enter the grounds of the holy temple of education. And when administrators seek to take pragmatic measures, long accepted in the private sector, to control costs and ensure the long-term survival of the institution, they are roundly condemned as "unchristian" and "inhuman."

* * *

ALL this is by way of a *pasakalye* to the recent strike of non-academic personnel of Miriam College, a labor dispute covered by the media which coverage may in part be attributed to the "oddity" factor.

It isn't every day, after all, that the serene campus of an all-women college is disturbed by a picket of striking workers and their bullhorn-bearing supporters. The case of Miriam's Union of Non-Academic Personnel (Unap) versus the Miriam administration is now with the National Labor Relations Commission, so it would be awkward to get into the merits of the case. But I think it's still worth taking a look at the background of the dispute.

The case arises out of the retrenchment of 13 non-academic personnel who did not avail themselves of an early retirement package (ERP) offered by Miriam as part of its "right-shaping" (a politically correct, at least for management, term for downsizing) program to trim labor and other costs.

Since many of the affected personnel had served Miriam for decades, efforts were made to make the ERP as generous and attractive as possible. Aside from an offer of 150 percent of their monthly salary for every year of service, the package included educational benefits for employees' children as well as medical insurance for two years. They would also be allowed access to facilities such as the library, cafeteria and clinic and be included in institutional activities. Affected employees were also helped to put up a cooperative, the Blue and Gold Ventures, which has now been granted a contract to provide uniforms for Miriam students. In addition, arrangements were made with agencies providing the out-sourced services to give displaced employees the possibility of regular employment, while counseling and training were provided for employees choosing the entrepreneurial route.

* * *

OF THE 120 non-academic personnel affected, 107 availed themselves of the ERP. The Unap, which opposed the retrenchment program, accused Miriam of unfair labor practice and demanded either a package offering 300 percent of the monthly salary for every year of service or the reinstatement of the 13 retrenched employees.

This is where the situation remains. The strike has been lifted and the striking workers have returned to work. It's now up to the NLRC to determine the merits of either position.

It's interesting to note that Miriam could have "easily" resolved the financial crunch by resorting to the well-worn tactic of raising tuition and other fees. But the decision had been made to keep tuition and other fees at realistic levels (there was no tuition increase this school year) in the face of falling enrolment, while continuing to deliver quality education.

Just the other day, I had a talk with a businessman who, among many other ventures, has put up a school outside Manila. One of the most telling signs of a faltering economy, he said, is that enrolment in private schools has been sluggish. "When you see schools advertising heavily and announcing that enrolment is still open a month after the school year has started, then you know how much enrolment has fallen," he said. When parents are forced to give up even on their cherished dream of quality education for their children, then they must be barely surviving.

And if enrolment levels continue to slide, will educators and business people continue to invest in education? How will the already-burdened public educational system cope?

The choice seems stark. Either we continue feeding this sense of entitlement without the corresponding responsibility of paying for quality, or we wake up and smell the coffee. For so long as we demand "good" education at bargain-basement rates, we'll end up with shoddy wares.

Chinos de Manila

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

THE CHINESE have long ceased to be an object of curiosity to us or perhaps they never were like someone you grew up with. Remember that the Sangley or Chinese traders were coming to these shores more than a thousand years ago.

But to Europeans, the Chinese were an enigma, an exotic race they were coming in contact with for the first time. If they were literate and multilingual, they might have read about them in Marco Polo's travels. But Europeans sent to the Philippines, unless he belonged to a religious order or the top echelon, was seldom well-educated or well-traveled. Anyway by the 19th century even the friars were short on education themselves.

Fernando Fulgosio writes in "Cronica de las Islas": "The Chinese who live in Manila deserve special mention. Most of them came from Macao, Chanchen, Ninpo and Canton. They are of medium build and speak, or more precisely, they can be understood in both Tagalog and Spanish. They resemble their countrymen in Macao and Canton. Their clothes consist of a shirt worn on the outside called a *visia* and wide trousers tied at the waist and black shoes with thick soles. They shave their heads except towards the top part where starts the pigtail that they wear plaited and to which they usually attach a handkerchief.

"Their *gobernadorcillos* carry the *baston de mando* (ornate cane signifying authority) and their bailiffs, rods of rattan. Both wear as badges of their work European-style hats. They look or deal with each other with great fraternity and do not spend or use their money [illegible] anyone else except their countrymen. They are very hard-working and whatever they save they send back to their homeland. The poor among them live together but do not fail to demonstrate their attachment to luxury as long as they have the means for it, hiring cooks and other help in their houses who are Chinese as well.

"There are those, too, who own carriages, and it is only then that the coachman is not Chinese. Their inclination to work and manner of living economically create antipathy among the natives who see, not without envy, the prosperity of the Sons of the Celestial Empire. Without doubt they deserve the wealth that they work for, being untiring towards accumulating it. When a countryman, reduced due to misadventure to misery and goes to jail because he cannot pay his tribute, the rest of the Chinese unite and sustain him and do whatever may be necessary until he is freed.

"For their accounts they use the abacus, a small square of wood where five small balls are inserted in each of the 10 rods that represent the decimal system.

"Not content with dealing in commerce wholesale, a trade that they share with the *mestizos*, they are spice dealers as well as fruit vendors and they have a thousand ways of earning money, being shoemakers, tailors and involved in too many trades to mention. We have spoken about their medical abilities for which science they have demonstrated notable ability and are often called for advice by the Spaniards themselves.

"We know how they wear their hair, but it is also interesting to point out that the job of barber requires other talents aside from shaving. They also have to clean eyes, noses and ears with some [illegible] and other instruments for that particular u[illegible] ting to see how the brush is passed ov[illegible] cous, the interior of the eyelids and even the globes of the eyes.

"Some Chinese are Catholics. For the rest who are Buddhists, there is a cemetery in La Loma. To bury the dead they place the bodies in coffins made of molave with a lot of provisions, paper, candles and other utensils. They inter them and then cover the grave with stones. They wear a black ribbon around their necks as a sign of mourning. In their homes, they have small altars like they do in China.

"The procession on Corpus Christi attended by baptized Chinese is worth seeing and hearing. They come with wax candles, dressed in silk and headed by their officers while musicians accompany their singing. Since they belong to the parish of Binondo, the procession proceeds from the church.

Another of their major feasts is that of San Nicolas during which they travel to the shrine of the saint in Guadalupe via the Pasig River in luxurious boats decorated like the pagodas in the rivers of their land.

"The origin of the pilgrimage was a miracle. When a Chinese found himself pursued by a crocodile, it was turned into a stone by the faith of the Chinese who prayed to the saint. The crocodile that had been turned into stone can still be seen as well as the ruined chapel where the pilgrims congregate. On the return to Manila the pagodas are gaily illumined and bands keep playing Chinese songs.

"We have already mentioned the affection the Chinese have for eating swallow's nests, shark's fin, pig's sinews, etc. The manner in which they eat rice is also unusual: they use two sticks of ebony or ivory which also serve as forks. They are by nature peaceful and when they have resorted to rebellion in the past, it was because they had exhausted all other means to obtain justice from the persecution they suffered more [illegible]"

Road to the basilica

YOUNG BLOOD

Edwardson L. Ong

We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—Ed.

FROM THE TIME we boarded the plane in Manila, I was wondering why my mother told me to sit near the window, a spot which I thought was most likely to be hit by other airplanes. Then as we began our descent to Naga, she turned to me and said, "Look down, Omboy."

I summoned the courage to look through the window and down at the city below, where I could already see the basilica and the complicated surrounding pattern of twisting, turning streets. "See, Omboy," my mother said gently. "There is more than one way to the basilica. Life is like that. If you can't reach your destination by one road, try another."

Many plane rides after that, I still did not know which road to take.

I once dreamed of being a basketball hero. Most of my waking hours, I fantasized about having my surname on the back of an NBA, or at least a PBA, jersey. But as with all dreams, it came to a point when I had to wake up. My inability to dribble with both my left and my right hand, which most of my classmates could manage very easily, convinced me finally that I was more of the type that should try to excel in academics.

In Naga City, I was at par with the brightest in our high school class. In Manila, however, I found it hard to keep pace with my college classmates. They were all getting high grades while I was barely passing. I explained away my mediocre performance by saying that my classmates learned many things we in the provinces were never taught. Of course, nobody believed me since many of my classmates came from different provinces.

To a certain extent, I feel that I was also a failure in my relationships with people. I had friends but not too many of them. While others would not let a Saturday night pass without going out with their *barkada*, I would often stay at home and just watch TV. Although I went out with my friends a couple of times, I made it a point not to stay out very late, to the dissatisfaction of the small *barkada* I had.

When I tried to play the guitar, I got all the chords right but I never was able to play beautiful music.

It began to look as though I was laboring under a curse. I began to believe I could be good at many things but not excel in any of them. I thought I should look for something at which I could easily be the best and only then could I become a success.

After college, I wanted very much to work for a multinational firm. The experience to be gained, the reputation it carried and the hefty salary it brought, along with the generous benefits made everyone in our batch want to work there. My college transcript and resumé, however, was not good enough to land me a job in the company.

I did not know what to do next. And I felt frustrated.

Then one summer, I made a very important discovery as I was running an errand for my mother at City Hall. One day, I walked slowly and got to an office in five minutes. The second day, my mother went to the same office and it took her 10 minutes longer. Puzzled, I walked with her on the third day and I realized that I failed to make some "side trips" like engaging a friend in lively conversation at the photocopying section, doing a critical inspection of the posted notices, taking some time to observe how other people transacted business and examining some nice green mangoes being sold at the corner of the hallway. In short, I had forgotten to enjoy the errand like my mother did.

It occurred to me then that life is not about excellence in a given field. It is not about speed or about being the best. As one Nike advertisement aptly put it, "Life isn't about keeping score." It is not about grades, money, clothes, or the colleges that accept you or not. It is not about the big things.

A little reflection will make us realize that life is about the tiny bits, the side trips. These are things that make us happy. A brisk, five-minute walk to the office at City Hall is not life. Sharing a few stories with a friend at the corner is. Interestingly, enjoying a tiny bit does not necessarily mean a hurried pleasure. In order to savor life, a lot of time is required.

There was nothing grand about the errand to City Hall. But my mother completed it happy. So while I felt tired afterwards, my mother was ready for another trip.

Despite my frustrations, my life is not all that I thought it was. In fact, it has been a success since the day I started living it. On my journey to the present, I made some side trips of my own. The occasional trip to the junk food store outside the school was one memorable moment. Not to be forgotten were the times I climbed the electric posts with my brothers.

In school, I had my share of happy moments. A successful project completed after many nights of cramming made me proud. I recall the day when I took part in a small basketball tournament, the meaningful conversation I had with a seatmate on graduation, the day I played one complete song, the day when I made a difference to a friend, and so on and so forth. These are memories I cherish.

It seems to me that living is not a question of choosing the better road, for on every road there are some interesting side trips to make. Neither is it a matter of choosing the easy way, for one can choose any road he fancies: one can be a businessman, a teacher, a music lover, a sports enthusiast and friend all at the same time—or none of the foregoing.

Indeed, there are many ways to a destination, but what matters most is the pleasure one gets while making the journey along any of the twisting and turning streets. And one doesn't need to search for happiness as if it were a button that has rolled under the bed.

I will not be striving for happiness as if it were a goal in itself. I am aware that I can be happy in the course of living every tiny bit of my life, like I have always done. This for me is life.

It no longer matters which road I take. All the roads lead to the basilica, after all.

Edwardson L. Ong, 23, is taking up law.

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Chile's people betrayed by court

THE ASIAN Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances (Afad), which is cooperating with the Latin American Federation of Associations of Relatives of Disappeared Detainees or Fedefam, vehemently protests the decision of the Chilean Supreme Court making former President Augusto Pinochet unaccountable for his participation in the execution of political opponents by a military squad known as the "Caravan of Death."

History is filled with old dictators desperately trying to appear physically and mentally fit to rule. The Philippine experience with Marcos attests to this. But when judgment time comes for them to pay for their crimes, they try to get themselves exonerated by pretending to be physically and mentally incapacitated to face charges.

The historic day of Oct. 16, 1998 saw the former dictator detained in London. Accused by Spanish law for crimes against humanity, genocide, torture and terrorism, Pinochet was principally responsible for the systematic, institutional and massive violations of human rights in Chile during those dark years.

Afad is fortunate to have visited Santiago de Chile and integrated with the families of the disappeared who then were counting the number of days Pinochet was being held in a London prison. In a monument to all victims of human rights violations, an inscription on a wall wherein names of all victims were written, states: "My love stays here and it sticks to the rocks, to the mountains and to the seas."

During that visit, hopes were high among the families of the disappeared that in the not-so-distant future, Pinochet would be convicted in the name of truth, justice and genuine reconciliation. Such hope turned into frustration after the recent verdict of the Chilean Supreme Court.

Peoples victimized by dictatorships should learn a lesson from this experience: they and they alone should be the judge!

—MARY AILEEN D. BACALSO,
secretary general, Asian
Federation Against Involuntary
Disappearances, Rm. 316,
Philippine Social Science Center,
Commonwealtn Ave., Diliman,
Quezon City

Toll increase has legal basis

THE PUBLIC information material put out by the Tollway Association of the Philippines in the INQUIRER was very enlightening. The illustrations, which had straightforward captions, made it even more so. Materials such as this should be disseminated to make our government and the public realize what would help make our economy grow.

The government's master plan to connect Pangasinan to Batangas will widen the spread of a better quality of life for Luzon residents. But it shouldn't end in merely implementing the plan. In honoring contractual commitments, the government must account for its actions and get people to understand and accept them.

As far as I know , all the legal premises related to the toll increase are in place. For this reason, I am one with the Tollway Association in appealing to the public to deal with the South Expressway's toll increase with sobriety "in the context of fairness with the larger interest of the riding public in mind."

The government must tell the people and show private investors that it is committed to honor its contractual obligations. In so doing, it can start and complete its "master plan of connecting Luzon" as well as its other pending infrastructure projects like the Skyway.

On this note, I feel assured that the Skyway developers will pursue the completion of their project so that they can provide Filipinos a world-class expressway to enable the economy to achieve the progress we hope for. If it were otherwise, they would have packed up long ago, leaving the government holding the bag and all the attendant obligations that would create a giant crisis for us. That, undoubtedly, is the last thing we need for an economic takeoff.

—CATHERINE MOZO,
29 St. John St.,
GPA Subd.,
Muntinlupa City

Big fish caught in Desierto's net

RAUL J. Palabrica needs to be better informed about the Office of the Ombudsman.

In his column last June 30, Palabrica accused Ombudsman Aniano A. Desierto of having an alleged "lackluster performance" for not being able to charge or prosecute big fish in the government. But Palabrica should admit that former President Joseph Estrada, who is now being tried for plunder and other crimes before the Sandiganbayan, is a big fish, prosecuted no less by a composite team of government prosecutors led personally by the ombudsman.

Former first lady Imelda R. Marcos, convicted by the Sandiganbayan (but later acquitted by the Supreme Court), was a big fish.

And so are some former high government officials previously charged in court by the ombudsman, such as Secretary Jose Dans, Secretary Ronaldo Puno and at least 11 other former Cabinet members.

As of December 2001, the high-ranking public officers with criminal charges filed in court included more than 16 military and police generals, 523 mayors, 18 governors, six congressmen, two ambassadors, 17 Cabinet members, one former vice president, two former first ladies, and as mentioned above, a former president.

If they are not big fish, who are? Does Palabrica want us to charge God Himself and the saints in heaven for him to be satisfied?

Perhaps he harbors the wrong notion that the ombudsman also convicts the accused. No, that job belongs to the court. All that he and his prosecutors do is to aggressively prosecute the cases in court and present evidence necessary to convict the accused. The decision whether to acquit or convict is the court's sole prerogative.

Our office had to react to this baseless attack against the ombudsman. If his performance is lackluster, as Palabrica claims, then the performance of the whole office could be considered also lackluster. It is an unfair indictment of the entire Office of the Ombudsman itself and not just of its head.

Palabrica appears to be totally unaware that the Office of the Ombudsman performs four basic functions: public assistance, corruption prevention, investigation and prosecution

When Desierto took charge of the office in 1995, he was met with piles upon piles of unresolved old cases, a number of them dating back from Tanodbayan days. In just a short period after he took control, the Office of the Ombudsman was able to wipe out the backlog of cases. Now, its cases are current in status.

During the period from 1995 to 2001, the Office of the Ombudsman disposed of, acted upon or filed charges against erring public officials/employees related to approximately 48,433 criminal cases and 21,265 administrative cases.

Of the 21,265 administrative cases, 2,034 resulted in dismissal and suspension from the service of respondents, while 10,536 cases were prosecuted in court for criminal offenses.

It may interest him to know that Desierto introduced the concept of people empowerment and put in place responsive public assistance in the overall fight against graft and corruption through the establishment of Corruption Prevention Units and Junior Graftwatch Units in the country.

With this pro-active or preventive approach, combined with the no-nonsense and aggressive prosecution of grafters in government, corruption has gone down 38 percent over the last three years. Statistics indicate that incidents of corruption in graft-prone agencies were down 28 percent in 2000. From a total of 2,669 in 1999, cases filed against corrupt officials went down to 1,924 last year.

The ombudsman is a doer and a performer, contrary to the way Palabrica unkindly pictured him to be.

—JOSE T. DE JESUS JR.,
spokesperson,
Office of the Ombudsman,
Ombudsman Bldg., Agham Road,
Government Center, Diliman,
Quezon City

Unpaid cash rewards for athletes

I WOULD like to call the attention of our well-meaning legislators to the fact that they have not yet given the P2-million cash incentive promised to Onyok Velasco when he won the silver medal in Atlanta four years ago.

After four years, they have just approved House Bill 12029 which grants cash incentives to medal winners in the Olympics, Asian Games, SEA Games and other international competitions. To implement the provisions of the bill, it is estimated that about P200 million is needed and this will be "taken from the net cash income of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor), to be remitted directly as a special account to the National Development Fund of the Philippine Sports Commission of the (PSC), in addition to the regular income share of the PSC under RA 6847."

Pagcor remittances to the PSC comes in trickles and are often delayed. I hope that the bill is not just another PR thing cooked up by the gentlemen in Congress.

The P200 million can either be a windfall of benefits for our athletes or a folly on the part of the legislators if they cannot provide the funds in the General Appropriations Act. Pagcor is an unreliable source of funding as proven by its releases to the PSC, mandated under Republic Act 6847, which come in trickles and are often delayed.

—APARICIO H. MEQUI, president,
Philippine Association of
Physical Educators Inc.,
58 Apacible St., UP Diliman,
Quezon City

Product ranking didn't come from ACNielsen

THIS is in reference to your story "Soaps and shampoo lather up good sales," which appeared in your Business Friday section last June 27.

The story was well-written and well-researched. However, we would like to clarify the impression the article might have created that the data came from ACNielsen. In particular, there was a portion that pointed out the ranking of several manufacturing corporations in different product categories and specific brands. These corporations were: Procter & Gamble, Colgate-Palmolive and Unilever.

Our contract with clients stipulates that the data cannot be used in the advertisement of any brand in any publication or in legal proceedings. It can only be used by the manufacturers to support its claim of market leadership on its standing in the market after clearance from the Advertising Board of the Philippines.

All these years, we have strictly enforced this contract provision among our clients and at the same time we ourselves have not shared or published any data partial to a specific company.

In your long running tradition of fair play, we trust you will give space to these clarifications.

—ZENAIDA S. SANTOS, director,
corporate relations, ACNielsen
Philippines, 11-15th/F, Columbia
Tower, Ortigas Avenue,
Mandaluyong City

The ranking mentioned in the story came from another source and not from ACNielsen.

—Tina Arceo-Dumlao

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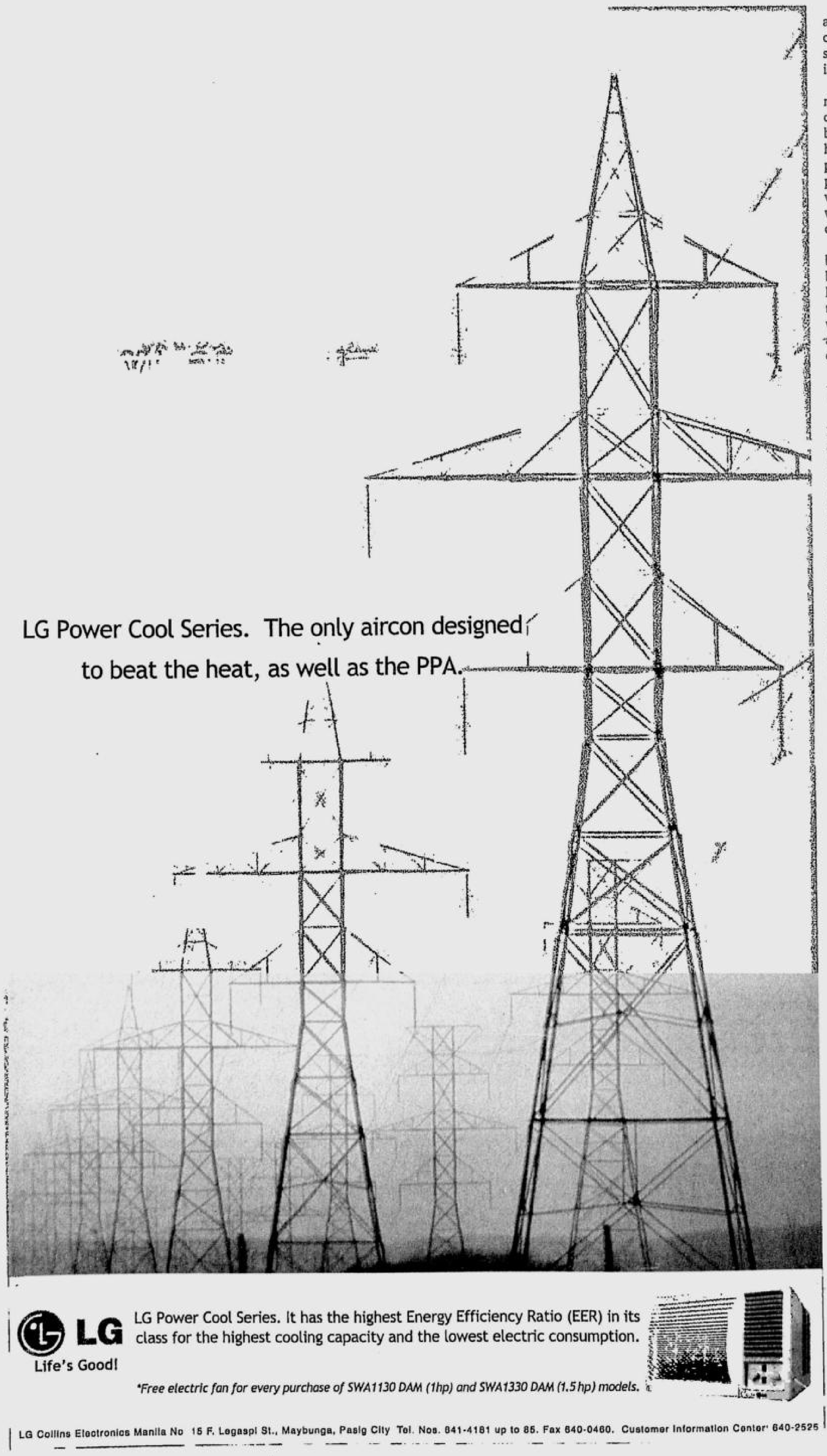

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

3 killed in shooting at LA airport

LOS ANGELES—An unidentified man armed with two guns and a knife opened fire at an El Al ticket desk at Los Angeles airport on Thursday, killing two people before being overpowered and shot to death.

The shooting at the counter of the Israeli airline at the world's third busiest airport sent screaming passengers diving to the floor, heightening anxiety across the United States where unprecedented security made Americans jittery on its first Independence Day anniversary since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Some eight hours after the shooting, bomb squad officers closed in on a car in an airport parking lot which police said was the suspect's vehicle. FBI agents later raided an apartment complex in the southern California city of Irvine, about 85 km south of the airport, an Irvine police officer on the scene told reporters.

The FBI said there was no indication of a terrorist connection in the mid-morning airport shooting but declined to identify the shooter, his nationality or his motive.

One eyewitness said the gunman, who appeared calm, seemed to deliberately target Israelis when he opened fire in an area where passengers were waiting to check in for El Al flight 106, which was headed for Tel Aviv, via Toronto. Five people were injured.

FBI agent Ron Iden told a news conference the 52 year-old assailant was carrying .45 caliber and 9mm handguns and a knife but was not carrying any identification and had apparently not spoken before opening fire.

Iden said the gunman was "confronted and subdued" by two El Al security guards and a private citizen. Israeli officials said the shooting had the hallmarks of a terrorist attack and said it evoked memories of bloody 1985 attacks by Palestinian extremists near El Al counters at airports in Rome and Vienna.

"It seems like terrorism. It looks like terrorism," Israel's consul general in Los Angeles, Yuval Rotem, told a news conference.

"The way it was conducted was very much similar to previous attacks at El Al counters throughout European countries. And therefore given this history we presume that it may be, and would appear to be, a terrorist attack."

Police and FBI officials said they believed the attack was an "isolated incident" and added that they were investigating reports that the shooting may have been sparked by a dispute moments earlier over identity documents.

Asked to comment on one report that the assailant was an Arab male, FBI agent Rich Garcia told reporters: "A lot of time people can be passed as Arab males who turn out to be Hispanic. It's hard to say just by appearances, so we cannot go on that visual aspect alone. ***Reuters***

Russian pilot did not issue warning, says German prober

BRAUNSCHLOEIG, Germany—The pilot of a Russian airliner involved in the deadly mid-air crash over Germany failed to warn Swiss air controllers of an impending collision, a German investigator said Thursday, contradicting an earlier statement from a Russian expert.

Chief German air accident investigator Peter Schlegel said initial information provided to him by Swiss air traffic controllers in Zurich indicated that the pilot of the Bashkirian Airlines Tupolev 154 was warned to lower altitude 44 seconds before the aircraft hit the Boeing 757 cargo plane, but that previous to that he had not signaled any problems.

However a Russian investigator said earlier that the Tupolev crew had given a warning of an impending collision 90 seconds before the crash, but then had to wait 40 seconds before receiving instructions from Swiss ground control.

The German investigator said the Swiss controllers sent another warning 14 seconds after the first one, whereupon the Russian plane started the dive which was to put it on a collision course with a cargo plane, leaving 71 people dead.

Russia's state news agency RIA Novosti cited the unnamed senior investigator who is deciphering the plane's black box in Germany as saying the Russian crew notified Skyguide, the Swiss air traffic service, about the problem some 90 seconds before the fatal disaster.

Schlegel said he thought that even 30 seconds would have been long enough for the Russian pilot to avoid a collision.

But as the pilot started taking evasive action, the cargo plane pilot also began descending in response to a signal from his on-board warning system.

The Barcelona-bound Tu-154 had left Munich after a stopover and had only been in Swiss air space for about five minutes when the crash happened.

According to official documents, both aircraft had modern warning systems but confusion remained over whether they were functioning properly.

Other initial findings showed that the Swiss air controller was responsible for five aircraft when the planes crashed, just after 11:30 p.m. on Monday, but investigators said this was not an unusual workload. ***AFP***

Saddam stepson admits mistake

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—Saddam Hussein's stepson, being held in Florida for immigration violations, has admitted he made an error over his entry visa to the United States, officials in New Zealand, where he holds citizenship, said Friday.

The Iraqi leader's stepson, Mohammed Nour al-Din Saffi, now accepts he will be deported from the United States after failing to get a student visa to cover his flight training program, New Zealand Foreign Ministry spokesman Brad Tattersfield told The Associated Press.

Saffi, 36, a New Zealand citizen and an engineer with national carrier, Air New Zealand, was enrolled for a recertification of his pilot's license but entered the US on a tourist visa. He was planning to study for the recertification at a flight school believed by the FBI to have been used by one of the Sept. 11 hijackers.

Saffi was arrested by immigration service and FBI officials in Florida on July 3.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Helen Clark said the government had "no evidence that he is connected to terrorist activity or to terrorist organizations."

Tattersfield said Saffi had contacted New Zealand Embassy officials in Washington "who are convinced that Saffi entered the United States for the purpose of study."

"Saffi accepts he has made a mistake . . . He's going to be deported, within a matter of days," he added.

New Zealand police have confirmed they cooperated with US authorities over Saffi's arrest. ***AP***

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Girl raped as punishment contemplates suicide

MEERWALA, Pakistan—An 18-year-old girl raped by a tribal jury here as "punishment" said she was contemplating suicide after being forced to re-live her ordeal by unwelcome questioning by police and the media.

The victim told AFP in this remote Punjab village that she felt like an "alien" after extensive media exposure and a flood of official inquiries into the trauma she suffered on June 22.

She was gang-raped as punishment for her brother's alleged "illicit" affair with a woman from a tribe of higher social standing.

Four men, including jurors, took turns raping her on the orders of the Panchayat, or tribal jury. She was then ordered to walk home naked while hundreds of villagers watched.

"There is no point in my living now," said the girl, whose identity is being withheld for her protection.

"I will be forced to commit suicide if justice is not in the next few days."

She said she was fed up narrating her ordeal to a flood of journalists and officials who have been ordered by the country's highest court to bring the culprits to book.

When the jury passed its verdict to gang-rape her, the girl said she pleaded with them to spare her in the name of God as she is a teacher of the Koran.

"Everyone tries to console me and express sympathy, but no one can tell me what is in store for me," she said.

"I know some people secretly dislike me and even my own family looks at me like I am an alien," she said.

In some areas rape victims carry a social stigma and are treated as if it is their fault.

Another gang-rape victim near here committed suicide recently, she said.

She added her 11-year-old brother was also gang-raped by members of the same Mastoi tribe in the village 610 km southwest of Islamabad.

Pakistan's Supreme Court is taking the incident seriously with Chief Justice Sheikh Riaz Ahmed describing it as the most blatant violation of "human rights and human dignity" in the 21st century.

The court has ordered local police chiefs to appear on Friday with evidence of action they have taken against the jurists and alleged rapists.

The unexpected court intervention came amid mounting protests from human rights groups who have condemned the rape as a "heinous act."

Punjab governor Khalid Maqbool Ahmed has asked two provincial ministers to visit the village.

He has also ordered an overhaul of the local police force for allegedly trying to cover up the crime. Two officers were suspended while the entire staff of the local police station was transferred.

The victim was not convinced that justice will be done.

She said she believed the members of the Mastoi tribe will bring pressure on the authorities to sweep the case under the carpet. *AFP*

A PAKISTANI teenage girl (right) who was ordered to be gang-raped by tribal village elders, sits with Pakistani Women Affairs Minister Attiya Anaytullah during a news conference in Muzzafarghar near Multan July 4. REUTERS

Karzai tells US: Coordinate bombing runs

KABUL—Afghan President Hamid Karzai urged the United States on Thursday to liaise more closely with his government on its military operation in Afghanistan where US bombs this week killed 46 civilians.

He said the United States' argument that it dropped the bombs in the Deh Rawud district in the central province of Uruzgan on Monday after it came under enemy fire was unacceptable.

"Arrangements should be clear . . . any operation needs to be coordinated with the Afghan defense ministry. Our people should be immune. People should not be hurt and the campaign against the Taliban and terrorism must not become the cause of people's harassment," Karzai told journalists.

Villagers insist that, in line with tradition, they fired only rifle shots during a wedding ceremony where more than 22 people were killed under US helicopter gunship, B-52 and AC-130 fire that lasted for nearly four hours early on Monday.

Karzai said the majority of the victims, including those at the wedding party, were civilians who fought against the former Taliban and followers of Osama bin Laden, Washington's prime suspect in the Sep 11 attacks against America.

"The latest information from the area is that approximately 46 individuals of the country have been martyred and nearly 130 have been wounded . . . We have been severely shocked by this incident . . . the majority of the people were those who struggled in the forefront against the Taliban and terrorism."

Karzai said he would soon travel to Uruzgan to visit mourning families there and urged the United States not to carry out military operations based only on the intelligence of informers.

Since Washington launched its campaign in Afghanistan in October to flush out bin Laden's supporters, US strikes have hit other civilian areas, including a couple of wedding parties, causing several hundred deaths, witnesses say. *Reuters*

Cholesterol drugs can help millions more, says study

LONDON—A type of drug designed to lower cholesterol levels could help protect hundreds of millions more people worldwide from suffering a heart attack or stroke, scientists said on Friday.

Results of a landmark study show that statin drugs are effective in a much wider range of people, including the elderly and women, than previously thought.

The drugs, usually prescribed for people who have heart disease or raised cholesterol levels, also reduce the risk of disease in high-risk people with normal or low cholesterol levels, diabetics, patients with narrowing of the arteries in the legs and previous stroke sufferers.

"It completely changes how we approach these high-risk individuals because l[illegible]ing their cholesterol will lower their risk," Rory Collins, the lead investigator of the Heart Protection Study, told a news conference.

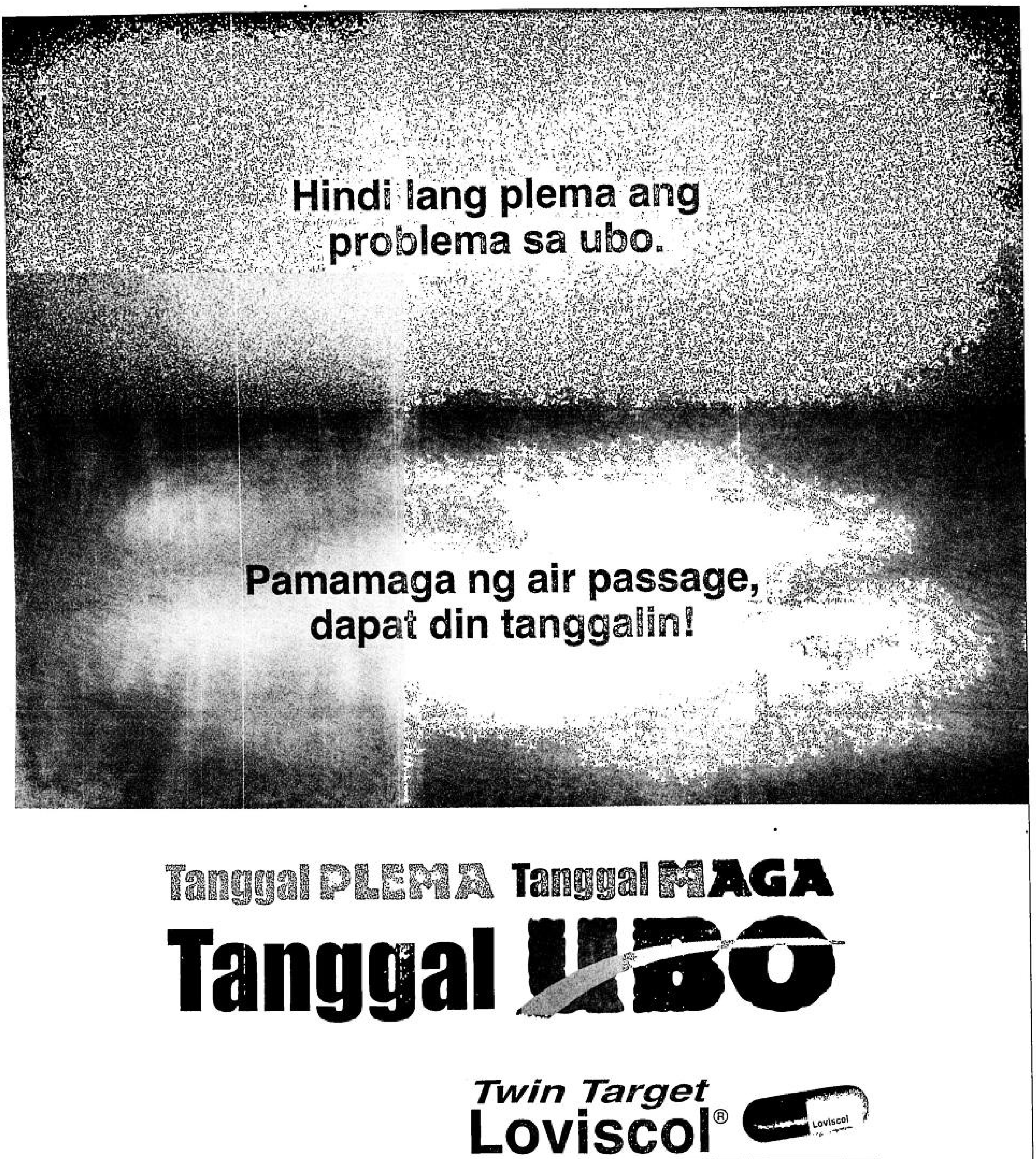
The results, first reported at the American Heart Association meeting and published in detail in The Lancet medical journal, are relevant to the treatment of some hundreds of millions of people worldwide

Cardiovascular disease is the leading killer in most industrialized nations. The results show that anyone at an increased risk of heart attack or stroke could benefit from the drugs.

If an extra 10 million high-risk people were put on statin treatment, Collins predicted 50,000 lives a year, or a thousand a week, could be saved.

"In addition, this would prevent similar numbers of people from suffering non-fatal heart attacks and strokes," he added.

Dr Richard Horton, the editor of The Lancet, said the research should lead to new guidelines on prescribing statin, which could lead to a trebling of the number of people receiving the drugs. *Reuters*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When foreign objects such as dust or smog block or irritate your air passages, your body immediately tries to remove these substances through a natural defense mechanism called coughing. Here, cough is a solution.

However, prolonged irritation by foreign objects, viral or bacterial infections may cause air passages to swell. This swelling leads to increased phlegm production that leads to more cough. Here, cough is a sickness demanding for a cure, a problem in need of a solution.

The Twin Problem

We used to think that stopping phlegm cures cough. But phlegm is only half the problem. Inflamed mucus-production glands causes increased production of phlegm. As long as these glands are swollen, they will continue producing more phlegm, and you keep coughing.

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To solve the problem of cough, you need to solve the twin problems of phlegm and the swelling of air passages. To prevent further irritation, try to keep away from substances that may irritate your air passages. To fight cough you already have, you need Twin Target Loviscol. Unlike ordinary cough medicine that acts only on phlegm, Loviscol's Twin Target Formula acts on BOTH sticky phlegm and the swelling of air passages. With Twin Target Loviscol, you stop the phlegm, you stop the swelling, you stop coughing.

Draft US plan calls for multi-pronged invasion of Iraq, says NY Times

WASHINGTON—A draft US military plan for an invasion of Iraq is said to envision a multi-pronged attack with tens of thousands of Marines and soldiers probably invading from Kuwait, The New York Times reported on Friday.

Citing a person familiar with the document, the newspaper said the highly classified plan calls for air, land and sea-based forces to attack from three directions in a campaign to topple Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

US President George W. Bush has openly declared his desire to remove Saddam my military force if necessary, but has offered few details of how he plans to accomplish that goal.

According to the newspaper, the document envisions hundreds of warplanes based in as many as eight countries unleashing a huge air assault against thousands of targets, including airfields, roadways and fiber-optics communication sites.

Special operations forces or covert CIA operatives would strike at depots or laboratories storing or manufacturing Iraq's suspected weapons of mass destruction and the missiles to launch them, the report said.

Underscoring the preliminary nature of the planning, officials were cited as saying that none of the countries named in the document have been formally consulted about playing a role in any US action against Iraq.

Nothing in the document or in interviews with senior military officials suggests an attack on Iraq is imminent, the newspaper said.

The source familiar with the document described its contents to The New York Times on the condition of anonymity, expressing frustration that the planning "failed to incorporate fully the advances in military tactics and technology since the Persian Gulf war in 1991," the report said.

The Times said the plan, entitled "CentCom Courses of Action," was prepared by officials at the Central Command in Tampa, Florida, again citing the person familiar with the document.

The newspaper said the outline indicated an advanced state of planning in the military even though Bush continued to say publicly that he has no plan on his desk for an invasion of Iraq.

"Right now, we're at the stage of conceptual thinking and brainstorming," a senior defense official told the Times. "We're pretty far along."

Officials told the newspaper that neither Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, nor the Joint Chiefs of Staff nor US Central Command chief Gen. Tommy Franks had been briefed on this specific document.

"It is the responsibility of the Department of Defense to develop contingency plans and, from time to time, to update them," Victoria Clarke, the Pentagon spokeswoman, told the newspaper on Thursday. *Reuters*

TERROR-FREE INDEPENDENCE DAY REUTERS

The annual fireworks show on the mall goes off next to the Washington Monument to close out Independence Day celebrations in the nation's capital July 4. The festivities were free of the terrorist attacks that US authorities warned might befall the nation

Arafat cleans house; blast kills militant

RAMALLAH, West Bank—Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat cleaned house Thursday, formally dismissing his police chief and West Bank security head, both of whom had initially refused to obey his orders.

In Gaza City meanwhile, a powerful explosion gutted a car in the residential neighborhood, killing the local head of the Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades, an armed wing of Arafat's Fatah movement, and his nephew. The blast prompted accusations from Fatah officials that Israel assassinated the men.

Bringing a close to an apparent turf war in the Palestinian Authority, Arafat signed a decree Thursday replacing West Bank security chief Colonel Jibril Rajoub with Jenin governor Zuheir Manasrah.

The tough Rajoub, who had demanded an official notice of his axing, was immediately appointed to Manasrah's old job.

At the same time, senior officials said police chief General Ghazi Jabali officially submitted his resignation to Arafat, two days after the Palestinian leader reportedly decided to sack him.

To appease his longtime stalwart, Arafat awarded Jabali the title of police advisor, although it was not clear what the job entailed.

He designated Jabali's lieutenant, Salim al-Burdanyi, to run the police department in the interim.

The moves wrapped up two days of confusion and anticipation in the upper echelons of the Palestinian administration, when officials said the men had been sacked while both denied they had been informed of the dismissals. *AFP*

Researchers predict 45 million more HIV cases by 2010

WASHINGTON—Another 45 million people will become infected with the AIDS virus in the next eight years, researchers predicted on Thursday but said this number could be slashed if good prevention programs were put into place right away.

Education, distribution of condoms, testing and other programs all work to reduce the rates of HIV infection, and if such approaches were used more widely, 28 million new infections could be prevented, the researchers said.

The reports, one published by the Global HIV Working Group and one in Thursday's edition of the Lancet medical journal, tie in with a United Nations report issued on Wednesday that predicts 70 million people will die of AIDS in the next 20 years. It said more than 40 million are currently infected.

"We failed to act decisively in the early stages of the epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa, and now we are paying the price," said David Serwadda of Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, a co-chair of the Working Group.

"But we still have an opportunity to save the next generation in Africa from AIDS, and to prevent runaway epidemics in India, Russia, and China."

Dr. Helene Gayle, former head of the AIDS division at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and now at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, said experts know what works—they just have to persuade countries to act. *Reuters*

No nuke wastes in waters, says NZ

WELLINGTON—New Zealand said on Friday its airforce would track two British ships carrying nuclear waste from Japan to Britain to ensure they did not enter its territorial waters, as protests against the shipments mounted.

Although the route is secret, previous such shipments have passed through the Tasman Sea between New Zealand and Australia.

The first of the ships, carrying a potentially weapons-usable mix of plutonium and uranium oxides (MOX), left the Japanese port of Takahama on Thursday.

"We have advised both Britain and Japan of our opposition to such shipments through the Pacific," Foreign Minister Phil Goff said in a statement.

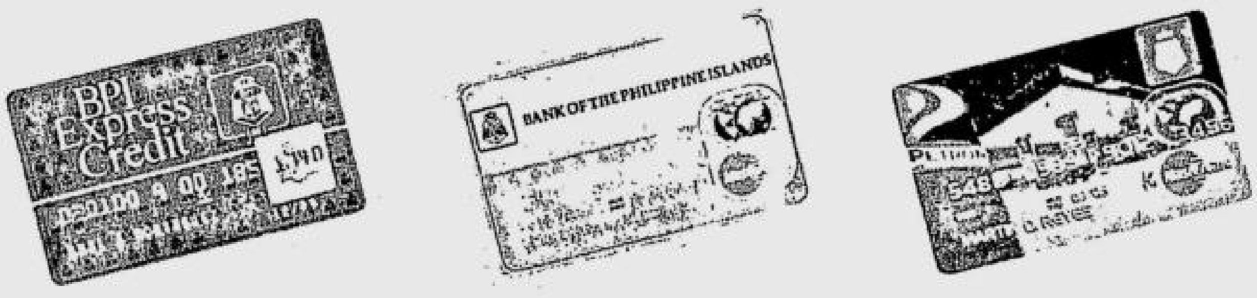
"While acknowledging the safeguards which have been put in place, these do not eliminate risks posed by accident or by terrorist attacks," he said.

The MOX fuel is being returned to state-owned British Nuclear Fuels after Japan's Kansai Electric Power Co Inc discovered that data for a 1999 shipment from Britain had been deliberately falsified.

Goff said New Zealand Airforce planes would track the ships to ensure they did not enter New Zealand waters, except in a humanitarian emergency.

"New Zealand is also seeking the transport states to accept full responsibility and liability for compensation for any accident that might occur."

Greenpeace said a flotilla of yachts plans to gather next week in the northern Tas-man Sea to wait for the two ships. *Reuters*



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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The whole country will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread rains over the Western sections of Luzon.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30°	Lo 24°
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 20°	Lo 16°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 33°	Lo 23°
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31°	Lo 25°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 29°	Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 26°	Lo 22°
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31°	Lo 26°
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30°	Lo 23°
Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 28°	Lo 24°
Roxas	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30°	Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30°	Lo 26°
Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32°	Lo 26°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30°	Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31°	Lo 25°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31°	Lo 24°
Davao	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31°	Lo 25°

Compiled by: Armin Adina, PDI Research/07/06/02

ROUNDUP

Gov vs road project

KIDAPAWAN CITY—Cotabato Gov. Emmanuel Piñol has opposed a major road project that would shorten travel time from his province to Davao City. The project is also being touted as one of President Macapagal-Arroyo's programs to boost tourism in the countryside. Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong said paving the 155-kilometer Magpet-Calinan road would also provide better road access to Mt. Apo, the country's highest peak. But Piñol said the project might unnecessarily expose the protected area to further exploitation. He also expressed fears that the alternative route would only worsen illegal logging in the national park. Mt. Apo, which stands at 10,311 feet above sea level, has been closed to trekking for several years now because of its deteriorating ecology.

Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Ex-judge stabbed dead

NAGA CITY—Retired regional trial court Judge Jose Vidal Nepomuceno was stabbed dead Monday night by unidentified persons in his home in Iriga City, a report reaching Senior Supt. Roberto Rongavilla, Camarines Sur police director, said. Nepomuceno suffered five wounds in the chest, head, stomach and leg. Police have no leads yet on who committed the crime and their possible motive. The body of the judge was found by his wife when she arrived home.

Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

De Oro reunion

THE LOURDES College and Xavier University (Ateneo de Cagayan) will hold a grand reunion of high school and college alumni dubbed "Total Recall" on Sept. 28 at the Villamor Golf Club in Pasay City. Alumni are requested to get in touch with Muñoz Sajo (8251509 or 0919-3531498), Elena Mabuhay Rivera (8718248 or 0917-7951718), Bembem Muñoz Policarpio (8251509 or 0917-8103855), Dina Beja Limtong (8251161 or 0917-2006323) or Felipe Neri (8513035 or 0918-9050476).

Organic production training

A FREE seminar-training on the Masipag Organic Rice Production and Integrated Farming is set on July 12-14 at the Cacita Padre Nuestro Retreat House in Barangay Sibul, San Miguel, Bulacan. The training aims to develop knowledge and skills in the production of organic and herbal products and to increase awareness on the environment. The training is being organized by the Citizens' Mass Media Services in cooperation with the San Miguel Integrated Livelihood Systems Entity Association.

MILF commander nabbed

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—A Moro Islamic Liberation Front deputy commander, who was wounded in an encounter that took place after an ambush in Marawi City last week, was arrested after he was found in a local hospital by police authorities here. Acmad Mama was identified as the MILF leader responsible for the ambush on a patrol of the 58th Infantry Battalion in downtown Marawi, which killed a soldier. Insp. Efren Camaro, precinct commander of the Cogon substation, said Mama had been charged with murder and will be jailed after his discharge from the hospital. Maj. Johnny Macañas, spokesperson of the Army's 4th Infantry Division, said the military will also file a complaint against the MILF for violation of the ceasefire agreement.

Grace Cantal-Albasin, PDI Mindanao Bureau

2 sisters killed in fire

SAN RAFAEL, Bulacan—Two sisters were killed and property worth more than P2 million was destroyed in an hour-long fire in Barangay Mabalasbalas here on Tuesday. SFO1 Reynaldo Bucot Jr., municipal fire marshal, said Fatima and Joy Galang, aged 4 and 15, were killed when the fire gutted their house and three others. Bucot said the girls were left in their house because their mother was working in Metro Manila while their two siblings were in school. Bucot said a lighted candle that was left unattended in the Galangs' house could have started the fire.

Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Houses for crash victims

CABANATUAN CITY—The Philippine Air Force on Wednesday turned over 22 new houses to victims of the crash of an S-211 trainer jet in Barangay M.S. Garcia here. The houses were built at a cost of P4,830,780. PAF officials gave the documents on the houses' turnover to Mayor Jay Vergara on behalf of the recipients. Officials here said the construction of the houses was part of continuing efforts to help the residents whose houses were destroyed by the Jan. 14 crash.

Anselmo Roque, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Comelec relaxes rules banning partisanship in barangay polls

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—In its first *en banc* session outside of Manila after martial law, the Commission on Elections has relaxed restrictions on the non-partisan character of the synchronized barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections.

In a marathon session here Tuesday, the poll body passed a resolution allowing politicians to campaign for or against candidates in the July 15 elections.

In a separate resolution, the Comelec lifted the ban on political advertisement in the barangay elections and expanded the scope of allowable campaign materials.

In passing the resolution allowing politicians to openly support or oppose candidates, the poll body invoked the right of citizens to free speech.

Commissioner Resurreccion Borra said the still unnumbered resolution, which took effect immediately after its promulgation, was passed during a marathon session from 5 to 10 p.m. at the Days Hotel in Iloilo City.

The Comelec officials were in Iloilo City to consult with election officers of Western Visayas in preparation for the elections. Along with Borra were Comelec chair Benjamin Abalos and commissioners Luzviminda Tancangco, Ralph Lantion, Rufino Javier, Mehol Sadain and Florentino Tuason Jr.

Abalos said the resolution merely upholds the "constitutional right of any individual to freedom of speech."

He said officials expressing support or opposition to a candidate should do so "in their individual capacity and not on behalf of their party or position."

The Comelec officials said by passing of the resolution, they were just being "realistic."

"Let us be honest to ourselves, is there a barangay captain who is not attached to a political party?" Abalos told the INQUIRER, when asked whether the resolution violates election laws that states that barangay elections should be non-partisan.

"It does not necessarily mean that if I, for example, campaign for somebody, I will be dragging the party with me," said Abalos.

Borra said any citizen "has the right to campaign for or against any elective candidate for the barangay and SK elections."

"We discussed the effects. We should be pragmatic and realistic. Let us look at it realistically and without hypocrisy," Borra said.

But, Borra stressed, politicians are still prohibited from raising funds for candidates they are supporting. He said candidates should not spend more than three pesos per registered voter in the barangay.

The officials can only carry the name of the candidate in public statements or other propaganda materials but should not carry the name of any political party.

When asked whether this also applies to the endorsement of a group of candidates that could constitute a slate, Borra said that was still a "gray area."

Borra, however, said politicians have already their line-up of candidates "long before the elections."

Iloilo provincial board member Angel Briones, executive officer in Western Visayas of the Liga ng Barangay, said that it is unavoidable that mayors meddle in elections.

"It is already being practiced even without the resolution because mayors want to put their supporters in barangay posts," he said.

Borra said the resolution was passed after the legal department of the poll body conducted a review of the Comelec's previous resolutions and Supreme Court decisions on the non-partisan character of the barangay elections.

15 bets ruled out

MATI, Davao Oriental—At least 15 candidates for various posts in the July 15 synchronized Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections here were recommended for disqualification after the Commission on Elections found out that they were not registered voters.

Remlane Tambuang, provincial elections supervisor, told the INQUIRER that he already urged the Comelec central office in Manila to disqualify the candidates because they are "unregistered voter-candidates."

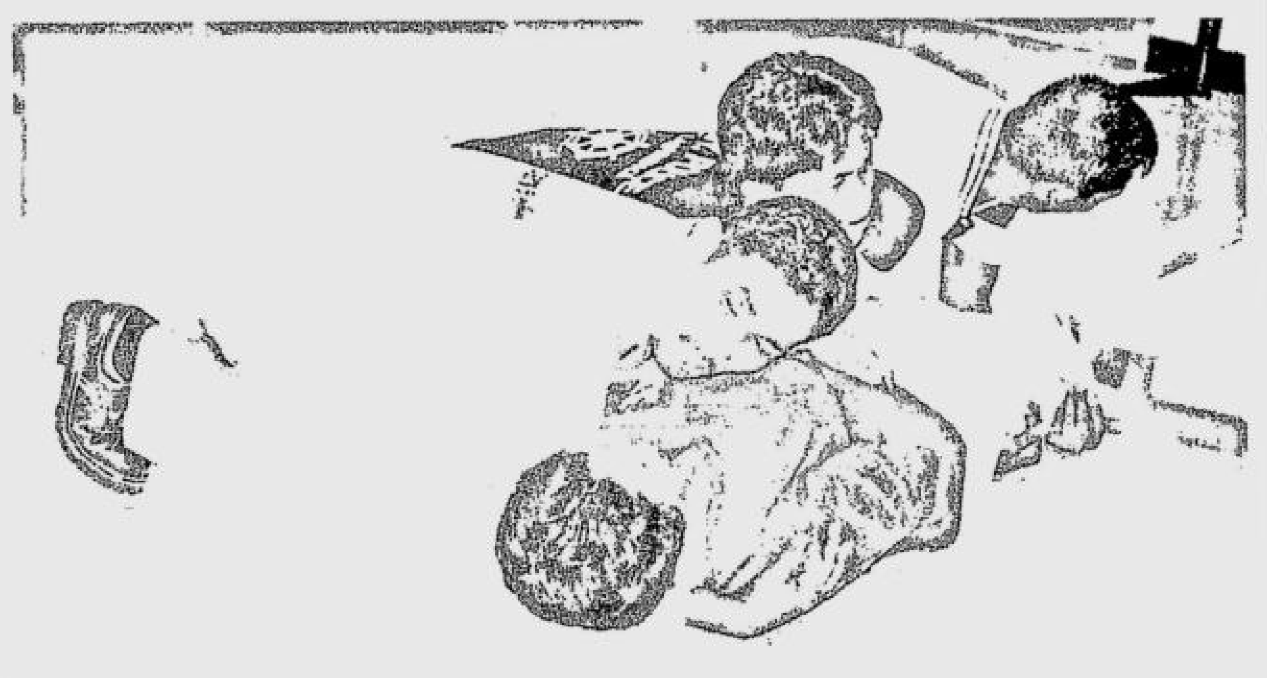
Under Comelec rules, only commissioners have the power to disqualify candidates.

"They thought they could get away with it. They were wrong. We have been cross-checking all our data to prevent election cheating," Tambuang said.

Although he released the names of the candidates to reporters, the election officer appealed that their identities be withheld.

"One candidate for the barangay elections is perceived to be a sure winner in the political race, but he was so frustrated upon knowing he would be disqualified. So please, do not publish their names," Tambuang said.

He said the Comelec was expecting that more unregistered-voter-candidates would be uncovered in the coming days. *Ferdinand Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



FIRST AID

PHOTO COURTESY OF QPL

Volunteers from the Philippine National Red Cross and the Quezon Power (Philippines) Ltd. Co. (QPL) conduct a drill on first aid treatment and other basic life support techniques during a first-aid training by the QPL for residents of Mauban, Quezon.

N. Luzon draws 2M tourists, says GMA aide

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—The scenic spots of Northern Luzon attracted more than two million domestic tourists from February to March, posting a 239 percent increase in arrivals, Presidential Assistant Renato Diaz said in a report.

"It more than doubled the 614,197 record in February-March last year," Diaz said, citing statistics culled from the Department of Tourism in the Ilocos, Cagayan Valley, Cordillera and Central Luzon. These regions comprise Northern Luzon.

The Subic Bay Freeport Zone, with 973,246 tourists, marked the highest record for the two-month period. The zone's forests, islands, golf courses and other recreation facilities drew local visitors.

Diaz, the presidential assistant for North Luzon, said Baguio City posted "positive marks," having 244,064 tourists in this year's first quarter.

Ilocos Sur, La Union, Nueva Vizcaya and Tuguegarao also fared well, he added.

Visitors to the Pagudpud beaches in Ilocos Norte, belatedly discovered as the "Boracay of the North," totaled 5,513.

At least 9,227 tourists flocked to the Callao Caves in Cagayan.

Diaz attributed the renewed interest in Northern Luzon's tourism destinations to two major promotions events: The North Philippines Expedition and the Petron 4X4 Clark-Pantabangan-Aurora Endurance Challenge.

Organized by the North Philippines Tourism Council, the six-day expedition toured the Ifugao rice terraces, the Callao Caves and Pinacanauan River in Peñablanca, Cagayan, Pagudpud in Ilocos Norte, Camp John Hay in Baguio City and Subic Bay.

These, he said, were "part of President Macapagal-Arroyo's aggressive tourism promotion campaign to tap the billion-dollar world tourism industry." *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

MILF says use of camp by Army threatens peace talks

COTABATO CITY—The Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) said President Macapagal-Arroyo's act of converting Camp Abubakar into a major military base poses a threat to peace negotiations between the government and the guerrilla group.

During her June 2 visit to Maguindanao, the President said the former MILF main base in Maguindanao would now serve as headquarters of the Army's 603rd Infantry Brigade under Col. Antonio Romero.

Ms Macapagal said this would disprove suspicions that the government would return Camp Abubakar to the MILF.

Eid Kabalu, MILF spokesperson, said the rebel organization would file a protest against the government before the peace panels.

"The presidential announcement could prove to be an obstacle to the peace talks," Kabalu said.

The President's action, he said, "shattered the already nurtured confidence-building efforts in the ongoing peace negotiation."

Kabalu said under the previously signed agreements between the government and the MILF, troop movements are prohibited as these were considered "hostile acts."

But while it was frowning on the conversion of its former base into a government camp, Kabalu said the MILF does not have much opposition when Ms Macapagal renamed Camp Abubakar into Camp Duma Sinsuat. *Edwin Fernandez and Charlie Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Aklan power co-op debts balloon to ₱125M

THE TAKEOVER by the National Electrification Administration (NEA) of the Aklan Electric Cooperative (Akelco) to ostensibly improve its operations and save it from bankruptcy has apparently backfired.

This was the assessment made by Akelco board president Melanio Rentillo eighty days after the NEA takeover ordered by NEA Administrator Fr. Francisco Silva, as he expressed serious concern over the deterioration of the cooperative's finances.

In a statement, Rentillo said Akelco's demandable obligations to Napocor has ballooned to P125 million from only P25 million less than three months before.

The increased debts to Napocor could be attributed to a 50 percent drop in its collection efficiency, an expected outcome as demoralization has swept through the ranks of its employees over unpaid wages and benefits, Rentillo said in his statement.

Worse, however, is the failure of the management group installed by Father Silva to improve electric services in Boracay and Kalibo because power outages are now more frequent and longer, Rentillo said.

Akelco is the electric distribution cooperative serving all of Aklan, parts of Antique and Boracay.

Duterte vows to disarm miners on Mt. Diwalwal

DAVAO CITY—Mayor Rodrigo Duterte said he would disarm miners in the gold-rush area of Mt. Diwata in Monkayo, Compostela Valley should the peace and order condition there continue to deteriorate.

Dozens of people have already died in the area since gold was discovered in Mt. Diwata, widely known as Mt. Diwalwal, because of territorial disputes between miners' groups.

"The first move . . . (would be to) talk sensitively and I will ask you (mining players) to lay down your arms," he said.

Duterte said disarming miners would also pave the way for an equal opportunity for everybody in Mt. Diwata.

"We have to share the good things in this planet with the real small-scale miners," Duterte, chair of the Southern Mindanao Development Council, said.

On Tuesday, various stakeholders in the gold-rush area agreed in principle to go into a joint mining venture to end their disputes over the gold-rush area.

The miners met at the behest of President Macapagal-Arroyo, who was alarmed with the increasing, albeit unreported violence in the gold mines on Mt. Diwata.

Rep. Manuel Zamora of Compostela Valley said big miners Blucor, Helica and JB Mining Corp. would draw up the plan under the close scrutiny of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

"We will not interfere with how they will go into the business venture. Our role was only to bring them together and agree on something because if we will do this they cannot really come into terms they are accusing each other," Zamora said in a telephone interview.

He said the miners might be able to come up with a final draft this month for presentation to Ms Macapagal.

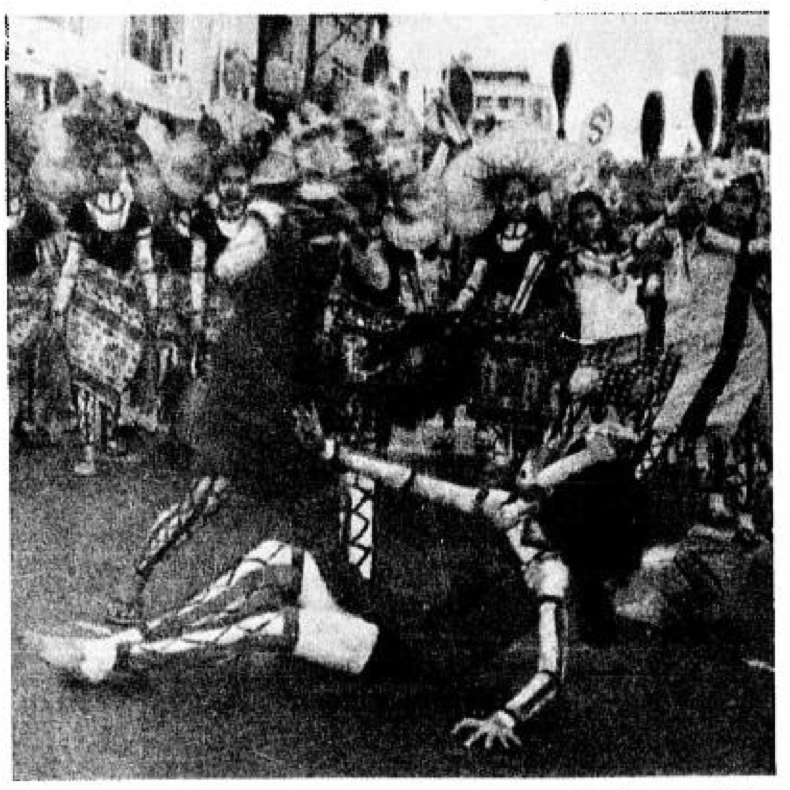
But observers said this would not really end the bickering because one of those involved in the dispute was not present in the dialogue.

Southeast Mining Corp. reportedly begged off from the meeting, which was held at the behest of President Macapagal-Arroyo. *Ayan Mellejor and Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

INQUIRER Visayas
Editor Jun Bandayrel ❂ Bureau Chief Edralyn L. Benedicto

Pintados: A glimpse into Leyte's past

By Vicente S. Labro
Tacloban City



A POSSESSED Pintado woman being exorcised with the use of the image of the Holy Child. PHOTO BY VEN LABRO

AS Leyteños paid tribute to the Senior Sto. Niño, patron saint of Tacloban City and Leyte on June 30, they looked back into the past through dance numbers featuring the myths, legends and practices of their ancestors.

In Tacloban, the fiesta celebration was capped by a concelebrated Pontifical Mass, and fluvial and land processions in honor of the people's most cherished and revered Child.

The people have worshipped the Sto. Niño since the arrival of the early missionaries. As the number of devotees grew, the parish priest of Tacloban swapped the Sto. Niño image for a bigger one ensconced in Barrio Buscada in Basey, Samar. That exchange has been reenacted every vesper day (June 29) for many years now, with parish priests and local officials participating.

The event has been called the "Balyuan Rites," which involves Mass at the Basey Cathedral, a procession of the Sto. Niño image from the church to the wharf, a fluvial parade led by a boat carrying the image, and the exchange of images at the Balyuan Tower in Tacloban.

The ritual is highlighted by Mass attended by priests and officials from both Tacloban and Basey.

The people of Tacloban used to mark the feast of the Sto. Niño on the third Sunday of January, but an incident in 1888 resulted in a change of date.

That year, the image of the Sto. Niño was brought to Manila for a change of vestments in preparation for the fiesta celebration.

But while the image was being transported back to Tacloban, the ship caught fire and amid the confusion in the vessel the crate containing the image was among those jettisoned. With the image lost, there was no feast that year in Tacloban.

About a year after, a cholera epidemic hit Tacloban and claimed many lives. At about that time, the governor of Leyte received a letter from the military governor of Mindoro, informing him that a crate labeled "Sto. Niño, Patron han Tacloban" was recovered by a village chief in Mindoro. It was said that the crate was found floating at sea despite its heavy load (the image and some candelabras), and that a boy was seen on top of the crate prior to its recovery.

Immediately, a group of devotees organized a nine-man group to leave for Mindoro and retrieve the image. On June 30, 1889, the boat "Consuelo" arrived at the municipal wharf. It was filled with devotees and residents who wanted to witness the arrival of their cherished Child. At the same time, the cholera epidemic that had plague the place suddenly disappeared and the people attributed this to the miraculous Holy Child.

Since then and until now, or for the past 113 years, the feast of the Sto. Niño de Leyte has been celebrated on June 30 in Tacloban.

Pintados Festival

In recent years, however, the feast has become more boisterous with the holding of festivals, the most popular of which is the Pintados.

Sixteen years ago, Mayor Roque Tiu of Tanauan, Leyte, and civic-minded entrepreneurs in the city organized the Pintados Foundation, Inc. Among these local businessmen were Nestor Villasin, now the vice governor of Leyte, and Wilson Uy, now a city councilor.

The group aims to come up with "relevant religious-cultural activities" for the feast and also implement programs for the benefit of Tacloban's street children.

Among the activities were the Pintados Festival and the Search for Miss Leyte Pintados. Pintados was what the Spanish colonizers called the natives in the Visayas, particularly in Eastern Visayas, because of the tattoos that covered their bodies.

It was on Homonhon Island, part of what is now the town of Guiuan in Eastern Samar, and on Limasawa Island, now an island municipality of Southern Leyte, where Ferdinand Magellan and his men first saw tattooed natives.

The Pintados was first held in 1987, and was instantly popular. It became synonymous with Eastern Visayas as the Sinulog is to Cebu and the Ati-atihan is to Aklan. It's a street dancing competition in two categories, community-based and school-based. Big prizes are at stake.

Like the street dancing festival, the Miss Leyte Pintados coronation pageant is also among the most awaited activities during the fiesta. The brain and beauty contest is participated in by young and charming Leyteñas coming from the different towns of the province.

Kasadyaan: Festival of Festivals

In 1999, the festival grew bigger and more boisterous when the Kasadyaan (Visayan for merrymaking and gaiety) Festival of Festivals joined it.

The Kasadyaan is participated in by different towns and cities. But in this year's Kasadyaan competition, all the participants were from Leyte. Sixteen towns joined the street dancing competition, which was won by the contingent of Julita town, who presented the Hulatan Festival.

Dances were performed featuring local history, legend and the people's way of life.

During the week-long celebration, the Subiran Regatta (race of indigenous boats), the Pintura ha Lawas (body-painting competition) were also held.

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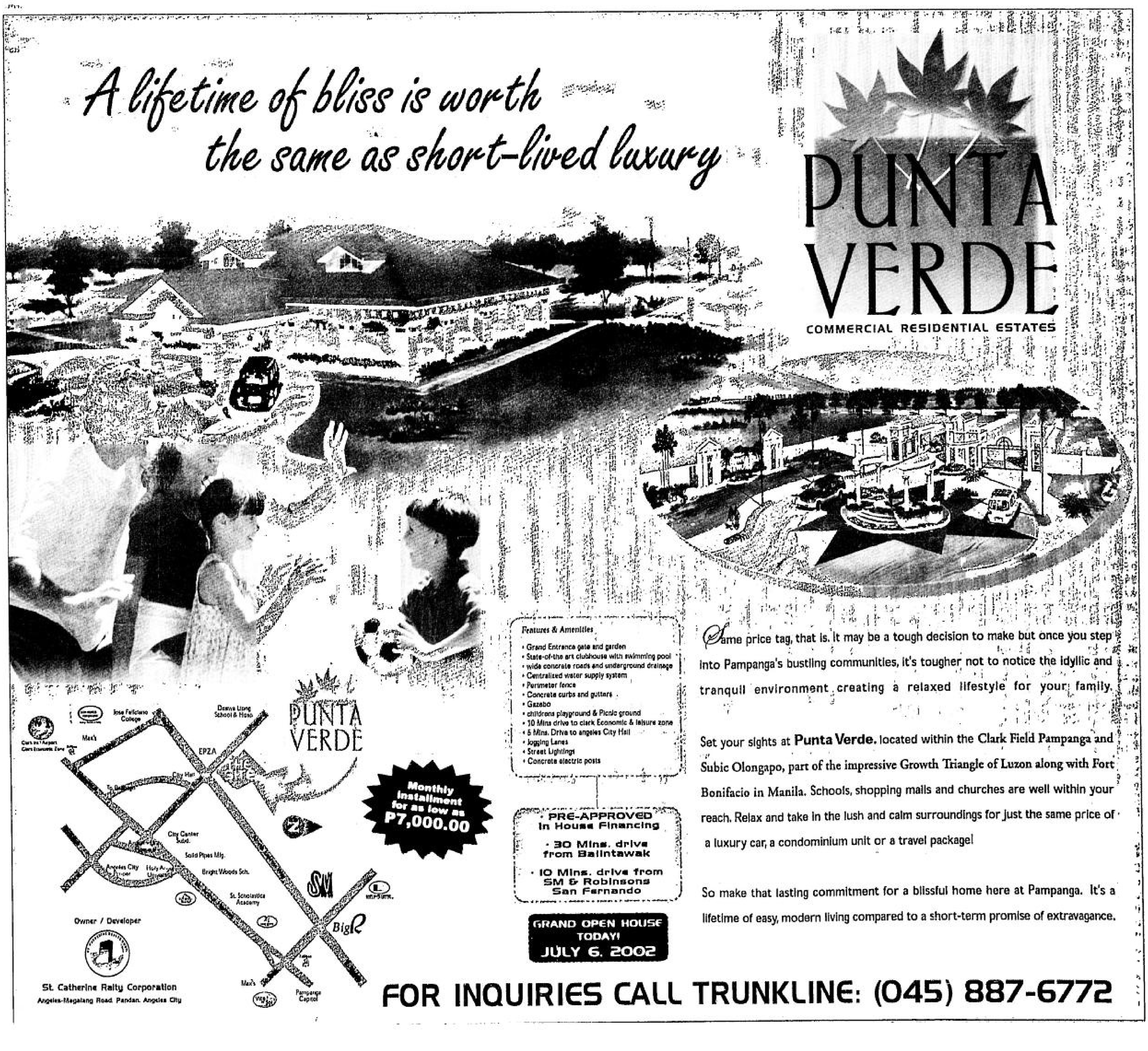

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Ople sets condition for taking DFA job

From page A1

had accepted the top post of the Department of Foreign Affairs "in principle." But Villarama said Ople's supposed acceptance was "hypothetical" in the absence of a formal offer from the President.

Ople had breakfast earlier yesterday with his colleague in the opposition, Sen. Aquilino "Nene" Pimentel, at the same hotel.

Pimentel later issued a statement saying that Ople had been receiving only "overtures" from Malacañang, and that "there is no offer to him yet which he can accept or reject."

Pimentel also said Ople "wanted to emphasize that on July 22, at the opening of (Congress), he will be with the new majority."

"He is not going to change parties because of the offer. That is the stand of Ka Blas," Pimentel said.

And should there be an offer, Pimentel added, Ople would "make sure that this is unrelated to the current standoff in the Senate."

Villarama said he did not know if Pimentel had tried to persuade Ople not to accept the offer, which is seen as a political move of the administration to tilt the balance at the Senate in favor of the leadership of Senate President Franklin Drilon.

But according to Villarama, Ople said over lunch that Pimentel was not particularly opposed to the possibility that he would take on the premier Cabinet post.

"Nene is sympathetic to me. He's broad-minded," Villarama quoted Ople as saying.

He also said Pimentel understood that the DFA was dear to Ople.

He wanted to think

Villarama, who served as Ms Macapagal's chief of staff when she was Vice President, said Ople had deliberately refused to entertain calls even from senators of either camp because "he wanted to think."

But this did not stop emissaries from Malacañang and his own Senate opposition bloc from seeing him.

Villarama said Ople was careful about accepting the offered DFA post because the "degree of authority" of the Palace officials who called on him was unclear.

Dante Ang, Ms Macapagal's longtime personal publicist, was one of those who called on Ople.

Villarama said Ople would "think about his options" if a formal offer were made after the voting on July 22, "win or lose" for the Angara group.

Asked if he thought the offer would still be there if the administration senators lost to the opposition, the congressman said: "Well, yes, if (the President) is sincere in having a government of unity."

OPLE scheduled to arrive today

He expressed conviction that the President, if she did consider Ople, would not do so just to keep the administration's hold on the Senate.

He said the President and Ople were "old friends" and allies when they were both senators.

Still, Villarama said he was not aware of any formal offer from Ms Macapagal to Ople.

He said the Palace officials who visited Ople could be wooing the senator for their own factions. "You know that there are several blocs in Malacañang who are sounding off potential Cabinet appointees," he said.

As for himself, Villarama said he came to give moral support to his mentor.

"(Ople) is like a father to me. I told him to accept the position once it is offered to him," the congressman said.

But he stressed that to Ople, the DFA post and the Senate leadership were "separate issues."

Angara said he was taking Ople's word in a letter faxed to him Tuesday and saying that Ople would not trade his Senate seat with the DFA post.

"The media statements that say otherwise are being released by the administration to divert the Filipinos from the real problems—a Cabinet spinning out of control, the lack of leadership, high power bills and the general hopelessness of Filipinos," Angara said in a statement.

In heart and deed

A member of the ruling Lakas in the House said the President would have more problems with Ople than she had with Vice President Teofisto Guingona if she named the senator to the DFA.

"Ople is opposition in heart and deed," said the Lakas congressman who asked not to be named. "How can he truly present himself as the President's alter ego to the international community?"

The congressman said Ople's loyalty to the opposition would "wreak havoc" not just on foreign policy but on the administration itself.

He said appointing Ople to Guingona's post at the DFA would be "another political blunder" for the President, and pointed out that her own party mates and allies were unhappy about the prospect.

"They think the opposition is getting better treatment than those who fought to remove a corrupt administration," he said.

The congressman claimed that various groups in the DFA had been meeting to oppose Ople's appointment.

He said the majority of the junior, mid-level and senior officers of the DFA were concerned about reports that Ople would be their boss.

He quoted a "senior DFA official" as saying that the Ople appointment would be "a slap in the face" of the DFA and its career service corps.

"The DFA has become a mere political reward, payment for political debts. It is taking foreign policy in a very simplistic manner," he said.

The congressman also said groups in the House were preparing to protest Ople's appointment.

"I heard that they will be coming out with a position on why premier agencies of government are being surrendered to the opposition," he said.

Rep. Ricky Sandoval confirmed that the group of young congressmen called the "Spice Boys" was to meet last night to "talk about what's happening around us."

But he and Rep. Robert Ace Barbers said they saw nothing wrong in Ople's appointment to the DFA. They said it would promote unity at this time of crisis.

'A US-bred politician'

Still, a militant group said appointing Ople as foreign affairs secretary would be a betrayal of the legacy and spirit of the two People Power revolts.

"He's a US-bred politician, a Marcos-trained bureaucrat and an obsolete politician identified with the deposed clique of ex-President Joseph Estrada," said Fernando Hicap, leader of the fisherfolk group Pamalakaya.

Hicap said the appointment of Ople was not in the national interest but mainly a political move done at the behest of the White House.

Pamalakaya spokesperson Gerry Albert-Corpuz said Ople was the "grand old man of political butterflies in Philippine politics and a first-rate US puppet."

"The US stars and stripes are etched on the face of Senator Ople, who talks like a Pentagon official and a White House resident," Corpuz said, adding:

"The US will not encounter any problem with Ople but, like Ms Macapagal, he is a major threat to the people's sovereign rights.

"Ople is the male version of Ms Macapagal, period." ***With reports from Rocky Nazareno and Gerald G. Lacuarta***

Guingona a no-show at Cabinet meeting

From page A1

deliver his routine briefing to reporters on what transpired during the Cabinet meeting.

As a matter of practice, the Malacañang Press Corps is given a rundown of the items taken up by the Cabinet.

Intact

But no-show or not, Guingona assured Sen. Loren Legarda that the ruling party was "intact," and that he was staying with it despite the shabby way he was eased out of the Department of Foreign Affairs.

"(Guingona) will stay with Lakas-NUCD, which he will make even stronger . . . (The party) is not in disarray," Legarda told reporters after her meeting with Guingona yesterday at the Hyatt hotel in Pasay City.

Legarda said she had sought the meeting so she could later tell Lakas leaders the real score in the Vice President's decision to resign as DFA chief.

"Of course he was hurt, and we who care for him were also hurt. But that's past now, and that was a good joint statement issued by him and the President (announcing that he would leave the DFA on July 15)," Legarda said in Filipino.

Guingona himself was tight-lipped.

Asked to comment on an INQUIRER report that Sen. Blas Ople had accepted the DFA post "in principle," Guingona said: "There's really nothing to comment on. Whether he accepted it or not is not for me to say."

Thankful

But he told reporters that he was "thankful" to those who had expressed support for him, like Legarda and Pastor "Boy" Saycon of the Council on Philippine Affairs.

Legarda said she and Guingona had discussed his policy differences with the President, including the controversial Mutual Logistics and Services Agreement (MLSA).

She quoted Guingona as saying that the MLSA—which will allow the US government to put up storage facilities in the country—should be approved by Congress and not by the executive branch.

Asked whether Guingona had sought her help to bring the MLSA to the Senate for approval, Legarda replied in the negative.

She said the agreement would be a "subject of discussion" in the chamber.

Mishandled

Legarda said Lakas leaders "only wanted to assess what really happened to avoid its being repeated in the future."

"I repeat that we, the officers of Lakas, were not happy with the way the Vice President was treated," she said. "I think there was really a mishandling of the resignation."

But Legarda was quick to reiterate that "everything is over" and that "everything is not in disarray."

Ms Macapagal, Lakas chair, clashed with Guingona, Lakas president, mainly on the issue of the US military presence in the country.

Both later said "honest differences" were the reason behind Guingona's resignation last Tuesday.

But Guingona announced that the ruling party was solidly behind Ms Macapagal.

"Lakas is still behind the President," he said. "After all, she's the President, she's the (Lakas) chair." ***With reports from Christine Avendaño and Rocky Nazareno***

GUINGONA: Absence felt.

The party's over, court tells Jinggoy

From page A1

The court hearing the plunder case against the former mayor of San Juan and his father, deposed President Joseph Estrada, ruled that there was no reason for prolonging the son's confinement at the Makati Medical Center. It thus ordered his cardiologist, Roberto Anastacio, to immediately discharge him.

Ombudsman Aniano Desierto hailed the court's decision and downplayed any hitches that could block Estrada's return to the VMMC. But Estrada's de officio lawyers said the decision was "insensitive" and dared the court to take responsibility for his life.

The court took note of Estrada's improved health condition and the fact that he even joined a late-night dinner with 35 guests at the MMC restaurant on June 11.

"As far as this court is concerned, accused Jose 'Jinggoy' Estrada has already overstayed his welcome at the Makati Medical Center," the court said in a four-page resolution.

It said Chief Supt. Rosalio Diola Magsino, Eastern Police District chief, and Sandiganbayan sheriff Edgardo Urieta were to bring Estrada to the VMMC to join his father not later than 5 p.m. today "until further order."

Estrada was taken to the MMC with the consent of the court last May 17, after complaining of rectal bleeding, difficulty of breathing and hypertension.

He has been confined at the MMC for 50 days now, "time long enough for the emergency situation to cease and long enough for his condition to either improve or deteriorate," the court said.

Estrada lawyer Prospero Crescini, who received a faxed copy of the decision late afternoon yesterday, said other members of the defense panel were preparing a motion for reconsideration.

ESTRADA: Back to VMMC

But in the event that Estrada's transfer pushed through today, Crescini said he would file a "strong manifestation on who will be responsible should anything untoward happen" to his client.

"The court should also consider the public's reaction," the lawyer warned. "Loyalists might again take to the streets and stage rallies and riots worse than May 1 (2001). This shows the insensitivity of the court to the plight of an accused found to be sick."

Partying

Earlier in a letter-complaint, one Leoncio de Mesa with address at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City, called the court's attention to a column item stating that Estrada was allegedly seen partying with actor Rudy Fernandez and guests on June 11 at the MMC restaurant.

De Mesa attached a clipping of Victor Agustin's "Cocktales" column in the June 17 issue of the INQUIRER, wherein it was alleged that the party went on until the wee hours of the morning and janitors were later seen bringing out bottles of wine.

Fernandez, however, told the court that no alcoholic drinks were served at the "late dinner" that he hosted for Estrada after a movie premiere.

In ordering the ex-mayor's return to the VMMC, the court considered these facts, as enumerated in its resolution:

- "Estrada already weathered the worst part of his reported illness."

As admitted by Anastacio in open court last Wednesday, Estrada was being kept at the MMC only for the purpose of lowering his CPK (creatine phosphokinase, a heart enzyme that suggests heart injury) which at 355 IU/L is still abnormal.

- Anastacio admitted that the cause of Estrada's condition (which resulted in his emergency transfer to the MMC) was the adverse reaction to pre-medication for anesthesia preparatory to colonoscopy, and that pre-medication was not repeated at any time at the MMC.

"Thus," the court said, "in the ordinary course of things, there would no longer be any occasion for a repeat performance of what transpired last May 17."

- "Estrada is not attached to any life-support system available only at the MMC."

The court noted that Anastacio admitted in open court that Estrada's emergency transfer was also necessitated by the fact that the VMMC was ill equipped to handle the situation for lack of necessary instruments.

"At present, however, Mr. Estrada is free to move about as ably demonstrated by the fact that he was able to walk on his own from his room to go down to the 3rd floor where the Floating (Island) Restaurant was located in order to join his friends for a late dinner, staying there for more than two hours," the court said.

- "Estrada is recuperating fairly well."

The court noted that Anastacio admitted his patient was being kept at the MMC for observation purposes only.

"This can very well be done at the VMMC as this hospital has been taking care of Mr. Estrada from the very first day he was brought there," it said.

Prisoner

The court said that while it did not begrudge Anastacio's concern for his patient, Estrada "is first and foremost a detention prisoner whose freedom of movement and freedom of choice are limited."

Desierto, who received a copy of the resolution just before the close of office hours yesterday, said the court order "has to be complied with immediately."

He said it might be too late for the defense panel to file a motion for reconsideration to block the transfer because nobody would receive the motion on a weekend.

"(The defense) will have to ask that he (Estrada) be allowed to be brought back to the Makati Medical Center," Desierto said.

Crescini said the decision was not fair because Anastacio himself had testified that Estrada was merely "relatively stable."

"How can the court know better than a doctor?" said Crescini. "You cannot gauge that a person is not sick simply because he was able to walk from one floor to another."

Crescini said all that Anastacio was asking from the court was a few more days to observe Estrada until his blood chemistry normalized.

"The Sandiganbayan is facing a risk. If anything happens to Jinggoy, how will they answer for his life?" the lawyer said.

Message from God, or just bad plumbing?

From page A1

evidence of a leaky pipe.

Some religious leaders say the holy wall is shedding tears after 21 months of Israeli-Palestinian bloodshed.

The Israel Antiquities Authority said it could be a leak but the authority has yet to discuss the patch with Islamic authorities who administer a mosque complex on a broad plaza supported by the wall holy to Judaism.

"Based on past experience we would suggest that this is caused by some physical problem with one of the pipes (on the other side of the wall)," Jon Seligman, an Antiquities Authority archaeologist, said on Thursday.

"It may well dry up this week . . . We've had bigger wet patches before caused by water pipe bursts," he told Reuters.

Reuters

UK, Dutch bird lovers helping to save 'kalaws'

From page A1

DENR will lend to the VA and NEZS eight pairs of West Visayan Walden Hornbill (*Aceros waldeni*) and Tarictic Hornbill (*Penelopides panini*) for breeding and research.

The four other types of hornbills in the Philippines are the Writhed Hornbill (*Aceros leucocephalus*), Sulu Hornbill (*Anthracoceros montani*), Palawan Hornbill (*Anthracoceros marchei*), and Rufous Hornbill (*Buceros hydrocorax*).

VA and NEZS will work with the DENR in producing education and information materials on Philippine hornbills. The two foreign organizations will also conduct surveys on the status of the birds and develop facilities for them in their present habitat.

For its part, the DENR will give technical and administrative support for the program.

Training for conservationists

The Philippine Hornbills Conservation Program supports the establishment and protection of bird sanctuaries under Republic Act 7586, or the National Integrated Protected Areas System (Nipas) Act of 1992.

Vogelpark Avifauna is a privately owned nonprofit bird park with a particular interest in hornbills. It is one of the official Dutch zoos and is a member of the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria and the Dutch Federation of Zoos.

The North of England Zoological Society organizes experts in hornbill husbandry. It manages the Chester Zoo, a charitable institution saving threatened animals and plants by supporting and promoting conservation activities.

Scientists from the University of the Philippines at Los Baños, West Visayas State University and the Negros Forest and Ecology Foundation have thrown support for the program, particularly because it will be a training ground for Filipino scientists and other personnel on conservation-related management.

The Philippines has been declared one of a few biodiversity hotspots in the world where rich flora and fauna are found.

Macapagal cracks whip on kidnappers

From page A1

"GO get 'em in one year," the President would appear to be saying to the new PNP chief Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. during change-of-command rites at Camp Crame on Thursday when she defines the PNP's priority to be the anti-kidnapping campaign. EDWIN BACASMAS

The President, who ordered the convening of the summit, will do away with a keynote speech to listen to the PNP's report instead.

"I'm going to look at (their) baseline (figures). I want to know how many syndicates there are now. And then I want to track them every month or every week. (I want to know) what (the PNP) did with this syndicate this past week. What offensives did (they) conduct. Things like that," she said.

"(That was) the way I (did it) with the Abu Sayyaf (campaign), which I think worked well," she said.

1st anti-kidnapping summit

We will have our first summit on Tuesday . . . so whatever instructions and guidelines we intend to provide to the units, we will hold that for a while, and we will continue working what we have been doing . . . Mayor Duterte will get involved in providing directions and guidelines and this will be tackled during the summit," Ebdane said.

The President had named Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte to head a special task force to assist Ebdane in the anti-kidnapping and anti-drugs campaign.

Ms Macapagal nonetheless expressed her confidence in Ebdane, who she said has the trust of the Filipino-Chinese community. She also gave Ebdane a free hand to reorganize the PNP.

Economy on track

The President had not taken a hands-on approach to the anti-kidnapping campaign during the term of former PNP chief Leandro Mendoza, who is now transportation secretary.

She explained that she was preoccupied with reviving the economy during her first and a half year in office.

She said she looked back at the targets she made in her first State of the Nation Address, and saw that "we have not succeeded in (terms of) competitiveness in power rates and peace and order," especially kidnapping and drug trafficking.

Claiming that the economy is on track toward recovery, she said she could now focus on finding ways to bring down power rates and addressing the peace and order problem.

Though the President last Thursday abolished the National Anti-Crime Commission and its strike force, the Naktaf, Ebdane prefers to retain it.

It has already established its credentials and there would be no problems with unit identification, Ebdane said.

He also said that since he was given only a year to stamp out kidnapping, he needs Naktaf to take the lead.

"Lean and mean," the Naktaf already has its trained personnel who would be placed directly under Ebdane.

"Remember, I was given only one year. I have to be responsible for it. I want to handle it initially and then later, perhaps, I can hand it (over) to somebody," he said.

But other existing anti-kidnap groups would be dissolved.

"The NACC has been abolished, of course, with it, comes (the abolition of) all the task forces . . . but my intent is to maintain the Naktaf with the same name so that there will be no problem on unit identification and I will make this an elite unit," Ebdane told Camp Crame reporters.

7 police generals

Ms Macapagal had earlier warned that the relief of seven generals for their failure to stop jueteng operations in their respective districts was just a "dress rehearsal" for more disciplinary action against police officials who fail to stop kidnapping and drug trafficking.

Ebdane said that he wants the Commission on Elections to decide the matter.

"Their fate hangs with the Comelec and we have to consider several factors. Definitely, when the Comelec issues the order, the clearance, then we have got to comply . . ." he said.

To address the vacuum in the organization, he said that he plans to allow the deputies of the affected officials to take over their vacated posts.

The PNP had been wracked by the controversial relief by Interior Secretary Jose Lina of seven senior officials for their alleged failure to curb gambling in their areas.

Davao police . . .

From page A1

nappers and forced them to abandon the victim.

Monteagudo did not give details on the arrest of the suspects who, he said, were undergoing police interrogation.

Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte said the boy's abductors had no links to professional kidnap-for-ransom groups, particularly the Pentagon kidnap gang.

"They are amateurs," said Duterte, who was appointed by President Macapagal-Arroyo to head a special task force against illegal drugs.

The Pentagon gang has been blamed for the series of kidnappings here and in nearby provinces.

Scrap defective IPP contracts, gov't urged

From page A1

be renegotiated, or in the case of some, subjected to legal action such as arbitration, said Camacho.

The contracts were signed during the Ramos administration at the height of a crippling power crisis in the 1990s. Most of these were under negotiated terms, including the notorious purchased power adjustment (PPA) feature which allowed distribution utilities to pass on the cost of purchasing power from the IPPs to consumers.

Rosales said Ms Macapagal should take the "difficult and morally correct steps" of: rescinding the contracts that are outrightly onerous; conduct a transparent renegotiation of some of the IPPs; and file charges against those responsible.

Sen. Renato Cayetano, the chair of the Senate committee on energy which conducted extensive hearings on the PPA rates, urged the Camacho committee to "fast-track the renegotiation of the 27 IPP contracts."

If the renegotiations fail, the review committee could resort to other legal remedies such as suspension of contracts or arbitration or even judicial rescission if necessary, Cayetano said.

"While legal remedies may take time, they may provide the means of compelling the IPPs to finally agree to a renegotiation," he said.

'Economic leeches'

Sen. Manuel Villar called for the immediate renegotiation of the defective contracts with the IPPS which he described as "economic leeches that have lived off the sweat and blood of Filipinos."

Warning that the government would be "in for a big fight" with the IPPs, Sen. Ralph Recto has proposed strengthening the IPP review committee "so it would not blink first when it wrestles with IPPs for lower electricity rates."

Recto said the committee should be given a larger budget and more personnel "as it digs in for the long battle."

He said justice department lawyers, government auditors and energy experts should be detailed immediately with the committee.

"The money spent to augment the capabilities of the committee should be considered good investment," Recto said.

Operational review

The Freedom from Debt Coalition nongovernment organization, however, does not think it is time for the government to go to the negotiating table just yet.

FDC president Maitet Diokno-Pascual noted that the report of the IPP review committee cited only the legal aspects of the review.

She said the committee should also conduct an inspection of the actual operation of the IPPs' power plants to see if they were working.

If the committee had done a technical and operational review, even the six IPPs reported to be "clean contracts" might also be found to be onerous, she said.

Pascual said conducting an inspection of the power plants to determine the instances of contract breach would strengthen chances of successful renegotiation and add teeth to government threat to drag liable parties to court.

She said if the government was serious in building a strong case for the cancellation and renegotiation of the contracts, it should take the operational review seriously.

"Although the review may be good enough to prosecute the Ramos administration officials, it is not yet good enough as an instrument for negotiation," Pascual said.

Disappointed IPP

The country's largest independent power producer yesterday expressed "surprise and disappointment" that its 1,200-megawatt Sual coal plant was found to have "legal and financial issues" that could be subject to possible renegotiation.

The IPP committee recommended the contract for Mirant Phil.'s Sual project, along with four others, for "appropriate study, renegotiation and possible legal action."

Mirant vice president Paul Allan Flake said in a telephone interview the firm had not expected that its Sual plant in Pangasinan and its 700-mw Pagbilao plant in Quezon would not pass the review.

The review committee included the Pagbilao contract among those whose financial terms might require renegotiation.

"The Sual and Pagbilao contracts were obtained through competitive public bidding," Flake said. "We followed all of the government's terms of reference in putting up the projects."

The Mirant official said their projects were required to, and did get, approval from the Office of the President; the departments of energy, finance and justice; and the National Economic and Development Authority.

Flake said these projects had been put up with funds from over 50 multilateral lenders and international financing institutions, including the World Bank's International Finance Corp., the Asian Development Bank, and the Japanese and American Export-Import Banks.

"It is not easy to get such approvals and financing, and having done so must mean these are good contracts," Flake said.

He added that Sual and Pagbilao were among the power plants with the lowest cost of generation per kilowatt-hour and the highest rates of usage.

"(The 1,200-MW Sual and the 700-MW Pagbilao plants) are being run at least at half of their capacities and usually up to 80 percent," Flake said. "They are the most dispatched plants in the entire country."

The energy executive said the National Power Corp. was able to charge higher mark-ups from Mirant's low charges.

Although he could not give exact figures, Flake said Sual was selling power at about P1.40 per kWh and Pagbilao at P1.80 per kWh. He said these figures did not include operation and maintenance fees that Mirant collected from Napocor.

Data from Napocor's tariff division show that the state-run firm's effective selling rate to customers in Luzon was P3.09 per kWh in June.

Flake said Mirant has not received any communication from the government since the results of the IPP review were announced on Thursday.

"We still don't know what is going to happen but we will cooperate fully. We expect to be talking with (concerned agencies) soon," he said.

The Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. said it has yet to be given the IPP review committee's report.

PSALM and the energy department are the agencies that will act on the committee's recommendations.

Bayan Muna's Beltran said the IPPs of the Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) and other power distributors nationwide should also be investigated.

"Meralco's IPPs have their own share of the PPA therefore we must not put them out of this issue," he said.

He noted that most of Meralco's IPPs were with its sister companies like First Gas, Quezon Power, Duracom, Miescor and should thus be looked into urgently, he said.

IPP review findings vindicate top Napocor official, unions

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—Members of the National Power Corp. labor unions are waiting to see what Rolando Quilala, the Napocor acting president, will do about the report of a Malacañang inter-agency review committee that found 29 of 35 electricity supply contracts onerous and defective.

Quilala, who was one of the first government employees to object to the independent power producer (IPP) contracts in the 1980s, has been largely vindicated by the report of the committee headed by Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho.

Also vindicated were the Napocor Employees and Workers Union (Newu)-North Luzon and Mindanao chapters, and the Napocor Employees Consolidated Union (Necu), which had first denounced the IPP contracts in 1999.

"This is why we want to know what the Napocor acting president will now do to immediately repudiate the onerous and flawed contracts that President Macapagal-Arroyo herself disclosed on Thursday," said Voltaire Tupaz of the militant Cordillera Peoples Alliance.

Documents obtained by the INQUIRER showed that Quilala, then a plant supervisor, had opposed a decision by former President Ramos to lease out the Binga hydropower facility in Benguet to private bidders.

Ramos wanted Binga converted into one of the first IPP contracts in a handwritten marginal note that has been kept on file by former Binga employees.

The 100-megawatt Binga hydroelectric power supply contract, one of the first IPP contracts concluded under Ramos, and the 365-MW San Roque multipurpose development project, which was one of the last, both have ties to Benguet.

The Camacho committee found these two IPP contracts onerous.

In objecting to the Binga contract, Quilala said it made more sense for Napocor to control power generators that rely on natural resources like water or geothermal steam than those that depend on diesel-fed plants.

"Now that Quilala is vindicated, he should pursue these objections to their logical end. He should investigate how the Binga contract was operated because the government has not explained how a crony identified with Ramos could take over a contract that had first been awarded to a Chinese company," Tupaz said.

The Chinese firm, Chiang Jiang Electric Co. (CJEC), owned by the Beijing government, was suddenly replaced by a Filipino firm.

The CPA, which had campaigned against the two IPP contracts, also noted that a substantial number of these reportedly flawed IPP contracts relied on plants fueled by natural resources like water and geothermal steam.

Tupaz said this would suggest that the Ramos administration had allowed private investors to stake their money in state-owned plants that earned high revenues because they were cheaper to operate.

Eleven of the 35 contracts comprise hydropower facilities and geothermal plants.

Only the Ambuklao hydroelectric power supply contract passed the Camacho committee review.

But this is actually a dead contract as the Napocor had terminated a contract with the Meralco Industrial and Electrical Systems Corp. (Miescor) to rehabilitate the plant because of delays.

The Ambuklao plant, which is badly silted, has not been functioning for almost four years now, the Napocor Second Generation Co. (Genco 2) has reported.

Jimmy Salman, the president of the Newu in North Luzon, said the Camacho committee might have discovered that the IPP contracts included bloated expenditures that would need to be paid for by the public.

"Many of the older (IPP) contracts with hydro plants were not regulated before 1994, so their terms were actually very good to the host communities. They operated on revenue sharing and actually gave host communities a larger share.

When the government began regulating this sharing scheme, the IPP contractors managed to transfer the expenditures for community development and for environmental development to the account of government. These were inserted in many of the contracts and may have been the reason for the high purchase cost," Salman said.

He said the few IPP contracts which do not rely on natural resources are short-term investments because the life span of diesel-fueled or coal-fired power plants and barges depend on the duration of their IPP contracts.

"That is why we originally objected to the IPP contracts. They forced the public to amortize these plants when plants like the diesel-fired plant in Pangasinan would be useless after their contracts expire. But we will continue to pay their costs," Salman said.

VENUS VS SERENA

'Sister Slam III' forged

WIMBLEDON, England—Will the latest all-Williams final be worthy of a Grand Slam or fizzle into another Grand Letdown?

Venus and Serena Williams will meet in the Wimbledon final Saturday, the third title match between the sisters in the last four majors.

Both previous Sister Slams failed to live up to expectations, with Venus winning easily, 6-2, 6-4, at the U.S. Open in September and Serena turning the tables, 7-5, 6-3, in an error-strewn match at last month's French Open.

The siblings, so close off the court, have had trouble bringing out the best in each other on the court. They have seemed uncomfortable on opposite sides of the net, rarely playing their best tennis at the same time.

Overall, Venus holds a 5-3 edge in career matches against her sister, though Serena has won three of the last four.

Asked to sum up their meetings so far, Venus said, "Just a lot of unforced errors basically."

That certainly hasn't been the case in their matches so far in this tournament, with both sisters thrashing their opponents in lopsided fashion.

Serena, who hasn't dropped a set, crushed Amelie Mauresmo - who had looked so strong in beating Jennifer Capriati in the quarterfinals–6-2, 6-1 in Thursday's semis. Venus brushed off Justine Henin 6-3, 6-2.

Serena's victory ensured that she will replace Venus as No. 1 in next week's world rankings. Serena said she "shed a few tears" upon learning of her rise to the top spot.

"I worked really hard," she said. "I deserve it."

But Serena said the ranking won't count Saturday.

It will be the first all-sister Wimbledon final since 1884, when Maud Watson beat Lilian Watson, 6-8, 6-3, 6-3.

Friday is set for the men's semifinals: Top-seeded Lleyton Hewitt against No. 4 Tim Henman in what many consider the "real" final, followed by the clash between lesser-knowns Xavier Malisse and David Nalbandian.

Hewitt overcame the first real challenge he's faced, outlasting No. 18 Sjeng Schalken, 6-2, 6-2, 6-7 (5), 1-6, 7-5, Thursday.

Henman's attempt to become Britain's first Wimbledon men's champion in 66 years was extended with a 6-3, 5-7, 6-4, 6-3 victory over 90th-ranked Andre Sa of Brazil.

The other semifinal pits 20-year-old Nalbandian against 21-year-old Malisse.

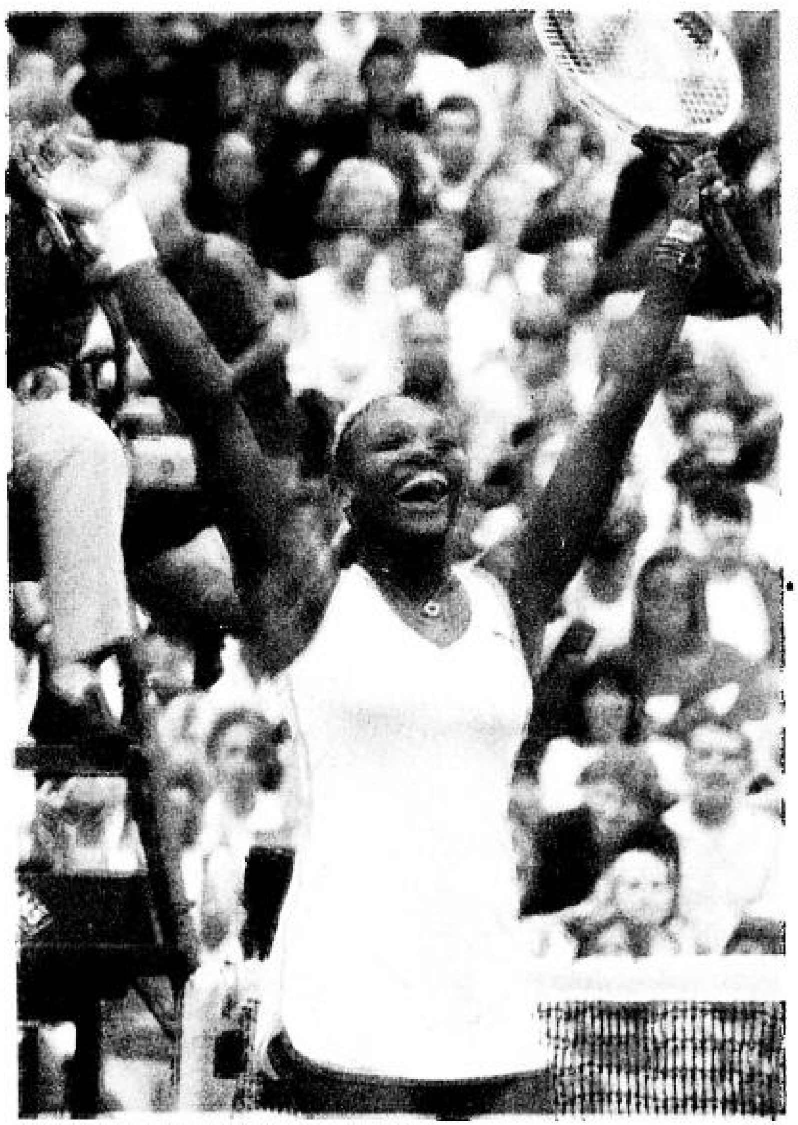
Malisse, the first Belgian man since 1904 to get this far at Wimbledon, defeated 1996 champion Richard Krajicek, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2, 3-6, 9-7.

Nalbandian, playing his first grass-court tournament, beat Nicolas Lapentti of Ecuador, 6-4, 6-4, 4-6, 4-6, 6-4, to become the first Argentine semifinalist at Wimbledon.

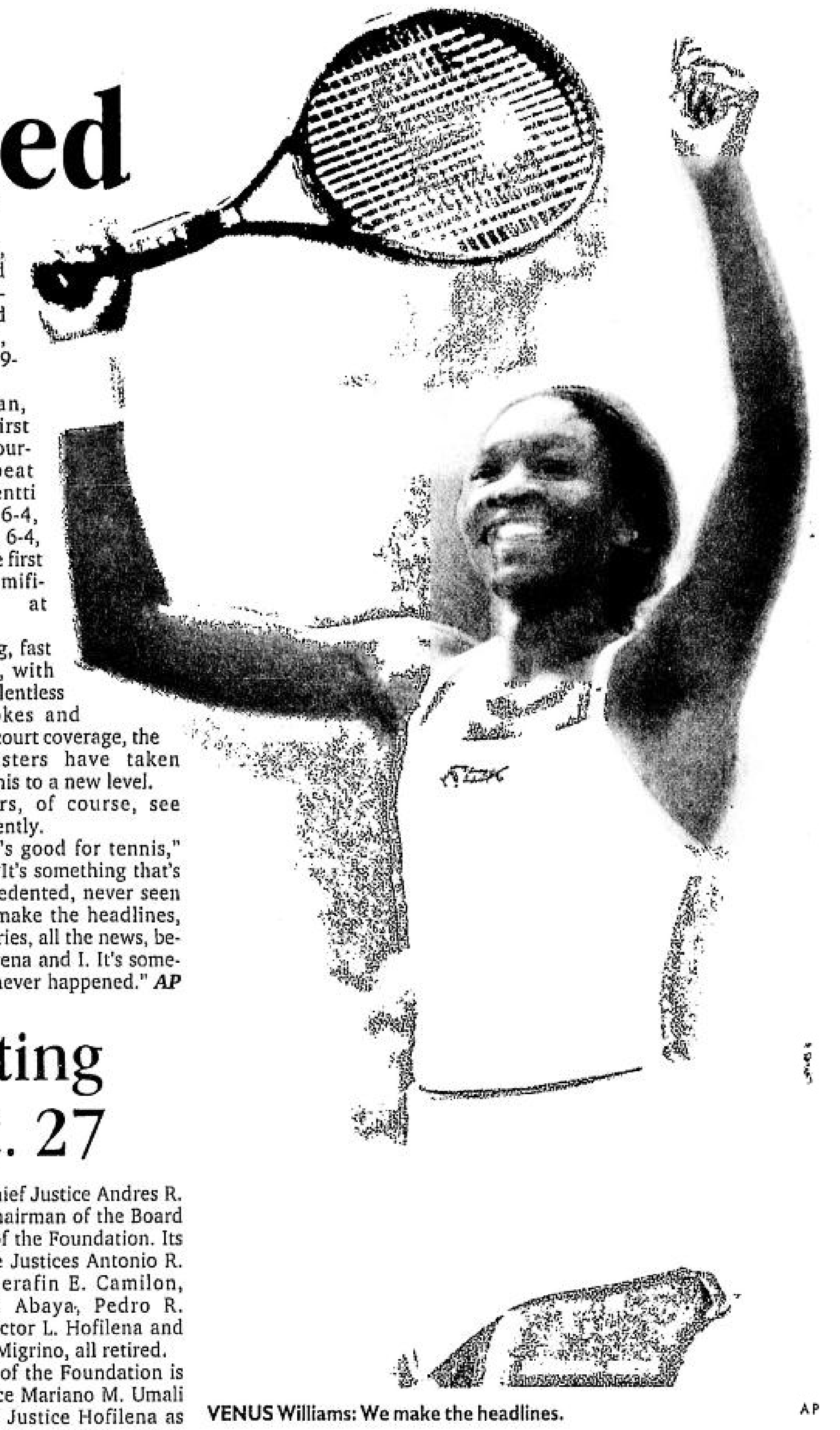
Tall, strong, fast and athletic, with big serves, relentless ground strokes and tremendous court coverage, the Williams sisters have taken women's tennis to a new level.

The sisters, of course, see things differently.

"I think it's good for tennis," Venus said. "It's something that's been unprecedented, never seen before. We make the headlines, the cover stories, all the news, because it's Serena and I. It's something that's never happened." *AP*



SERENA Williams: I worked really hard. AP



VENUS Williams: We make the headlines. AP

Wack Wack hosting judges' tilt Sept. 27

SOME 10,000 retired and active justices and judges throughout the country will be the beneficiaries of the first Philippine Judges Foundation, Inc. golf tournament set Sept. 27 at Wack Wack Golf and Country Club.

Prime-mover of the 18-hole benefit competition is Justice and Court Administrator Presbiterio J. Velasco Jr., considered supervisor and manager of all municipal, Regional Trial Court and Court of Appeals judges.

Velasco, president of the Philippine Columbian Club and a member of the Council of Advisers of the PJFI together with Col. Antonio Cabangon Chua, said justices and judges, retired and active, should be provided with financial assistance to raise their quality of life in these changing times.

Retired Chief Justice Andres R. Narvasa is chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation. Its members are Justices Antonio R. Martinez, Serafin E. Camilon, Eduardo C. Abaya, Pedro R. Ramirez, Hector L. Hofilena and Eutropio H. Migrino, all retired.

President of the Foundation is retired Justice Mariano M. Umali with retired Justice Hofilena as treasurer and retired Judge Pedro M. Areola as secretary.

The newly registered law foundation aims to develop and maintain the independence and protect the integrity of the Judiciary. Among its primary purposes is to provide not only incumbent but also retired judges and justices with health care benefits in order to improve their quality of life and to achieve judicial excellence.

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Basilan, LU chess bets win

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga—Basilan and La Union hurdled separate rivals yesterday to climb back on top of the 2002 National Inter-provincial Chess Team Championship at the Robinson Starmills here.

Basilan, backstopped by GM Eugene Torre, and La Union, spearheaded by IM Chito Garma, posted similar 3-1 victories over Negros Occidental and Bohol (CP Garcia), respectively, to regain the lead they shared after the third round.

Both Basilan and La Union have five points each after six rounds of the weeklong tournament organized by the National Chess Federation of the Philippines. Other supporters are the Department of Interior and Local Government, the Province of Pampanga, the Department of Tourism and Robinsons Starmills Mall.

Roy Luarca

SPORTSWATCH

Webb blown away in Open

HUTCHINSON, Kansas—If there's history to be made at this U.S. Women's Open, it won't come from Karrie Webb. Bidding to become the first woman to win three straight Opens, Webb was blown away by hot afternoon winds and wound up with her worst round in seven years on the LPGA Tour, a 9-over 79 that left her hopeful only of playing on the weekend. Juli Inkster played like she owned it. Inkster, who won her first of three straight U.S. Women Amateur titles at Prairie Dunes in 1980, birdied four of the first six holes and finished with a 3-under 67 to share the lead with fellow American Laura Diaz and Shani Waugh of Australia. Filipina Jennifer Rosales needed a strong windup to salvage a 3-over 73 and share 41st place. Inkster, 42, is trying to become the oldest champion of the Women's Open. Fay Crocker was 40 years, 11 months when she won in 1955. Annika Sorenstam, playing in the same group as Inkster, felt like she was running in place. None of the 75 players who teed off in the afternoon managed to break par, leaving only six players in the 60s. Kim Saiki had a bogey-free 68, while Lorie Kane of Canada and Catriona Matthew of Scotland were at 69. Sorenstam was among eight players at even-par 70, while 16-year-old Aree Wongluekiet and 45-year-old Beth Daniel were in a large group at 71. *With a report from Jong Arcano*

Gossett paces Western open

LEMONT, Illinois—Playing in Illinois seems to agree with David Gossett. Gossett, who got his first PGA Tour victory at last year's John Deere Classic in Silvis, Illinois, had nine birdies on his way to a 7-under 65 Thursday to take the lead in the first round of the Western Open. "I certainly like the Chicagoland area and this is a great golf course," he said. He'll have to wait to see if it will hold up, though. The first round will be completed Friday morning after rain interrupted play for almost 3 1/2 hours Thursday afternoon. There were still 50 players on the course when play was stopped because of darkness, including two at 5-under and six at 4-under. Bob Estes finished his final hole after the horn blew, but it was worth it to take the extra time. He birdied the par-5 9th and finished at 66. *AP*

Armstrong nervous about Tour

LUXEMBOURG—Even after three straight Tour de France victories, Lance Armstrong still gets nervous about cycling's premier race. "Anybody can win. Well, not anybody–but almost anybody," he told reporters Thursday in Luxembourg, where the grueling 21-day race gets under way Saturday. "I'm not guaranteed to be in the front." "There could be somebody better, there could be 10 people better, and I know that," he said. The U.S. Postal rider is highly favored to win a fourth consecutive Tour victory, in part because several of his top rivals will be missing. He would be the first American to win four tours: Compatriot Greg LeMond also won three. *AP*

Yankees end Thome's 7-game run

NEW YORK—Mike Mussina and the Yankees ended Jim Thome's seven-game homer streak - one short of a major league record - and Raul Mondesi hit his first homer for New York in a 7-1 victory over the Cleveland Indians on Thursday. Thome went 0-for-3 with a walk as he failed to match the record shared by Ken Griffey Jr., Don Mattingly and Dale Long.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 9, Toronto 5; N.Y. Yankees 7, Cleveland 1; Seattle 2, Minnesota 1; Detroit 6, Chicago White Sox 5; Texas 11, Tampa Bay 8; Baltimore 7, Anaheim 2; Oakland 3, Kansas City 2.

NATIONAL LEAUGE: Milwaukee 5, Cincinnati 4; Montreal 2, Philadelphia 1; Houston 8, Pittsburgh 6; Florida 9, N.Y. Mets 7; Arizona 6, San Francisco 3; St. Louis 3, Los Angeles 2; Atlanta 5, Chicago Cubs 1. *AP*

RACING TIPS

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Race 2—1. Bold Advance 2. Tender Value

Race 3—1. Silver Music 2. Nokaba 3. Southern Skies 4. D Greatest

Race 4—1. Houdini 2. Golden Prince 3. Firenze Rose

Race 5—1. Señor Perior 2. Aya's Star 3. Brenda Starr

Race 6—1. Red Rose 2. Allusion

Race 7—1. Hercules 2. Fortune Maker 3. Cubano 4. Hope 5. Raise a Fire

Race 8—1. Duces Tecum 2. Palachik 3. Sweep Away 4. Princess Inn

Race 9—1. Kitty Hawk 2. Mrs. Big 3. Chief Navigator 4. Cat's Bells 5. Speed Master

Race 10—1. Thunder Fire 2. Might and Power

Race 11—1. Tatler Cover 2. Dandansoy 3. Apple Splash 4. Action Mark 5. Winter's Fury

Race 12—1. Lucky Strike/Woman's Task 2. Atenean 3. Baptism of Fire

Race 13—1. Sanry Forex 2. Kay Gee Em Ey 3. Al Baraq 4. Lorna 5. Powerhouse 6. Fearzam

Golf Power today on RPN 9

GOLF Power is back on the air. Now on its seventh year, the show can be seen every Saturday at 2 p.m. on RPN 9. Golf Power features the participation of the Philippine Junior Golf Federation in the recently concluded 1st Junior Golf Singapore Open. The weekly golf program is produced by Joe Cantada Sports and is sponsored by Absolute Pure Distilled Drinking Water.

SPORTS
Editor Al S. Mendoza ◉ Assistant Editor Edwin M. Villanueva

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(in exact order)
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San Miguel swamps Purefoods, 81-58

GAMES TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)
3:45 p.m.—Alaska vs Fedex
5:45 p.m.—Shell vs Red Bull

By June Navarro

ILOILO CITY—Art Long imposed himself in the shaded lane with authority, while Shea Seals shot torridly from three-point country.

With these ingredients, the San Miguel Beermen trounced the Purefoods TJ Hotdogs, 81-58, last night in the PBA Samsung Commissioner's Cup at the University of San Agustin gym here.

The Beermen, who followed up their 83-75 conquest of Coca-Cola last week, improved their slate to 2-2, while the Hotdogs plummeted to 1-3 in the company of Barangay Ginebra.

"We knew they (Hotdogs) are capable of coming back. Good thing we kept our poise down the stretch," said San Miguel Beer interim coach Siot Tanquincen.

With Long and Seals at the firing end, the Beermen built a 45-25 spread midway in the second quarter as they threatened to break loose from the game sponsored by Air Philippines.

The 6-foot-9 Long scored nine of his 20 points in the first quarter as the Beermen started their breakaway.

It was Seals, a former LA Laker, however, who implemented the plan, drilling four straight triples and a jumper that turned the highly billed down-the-wire fight into a one-sided contest.

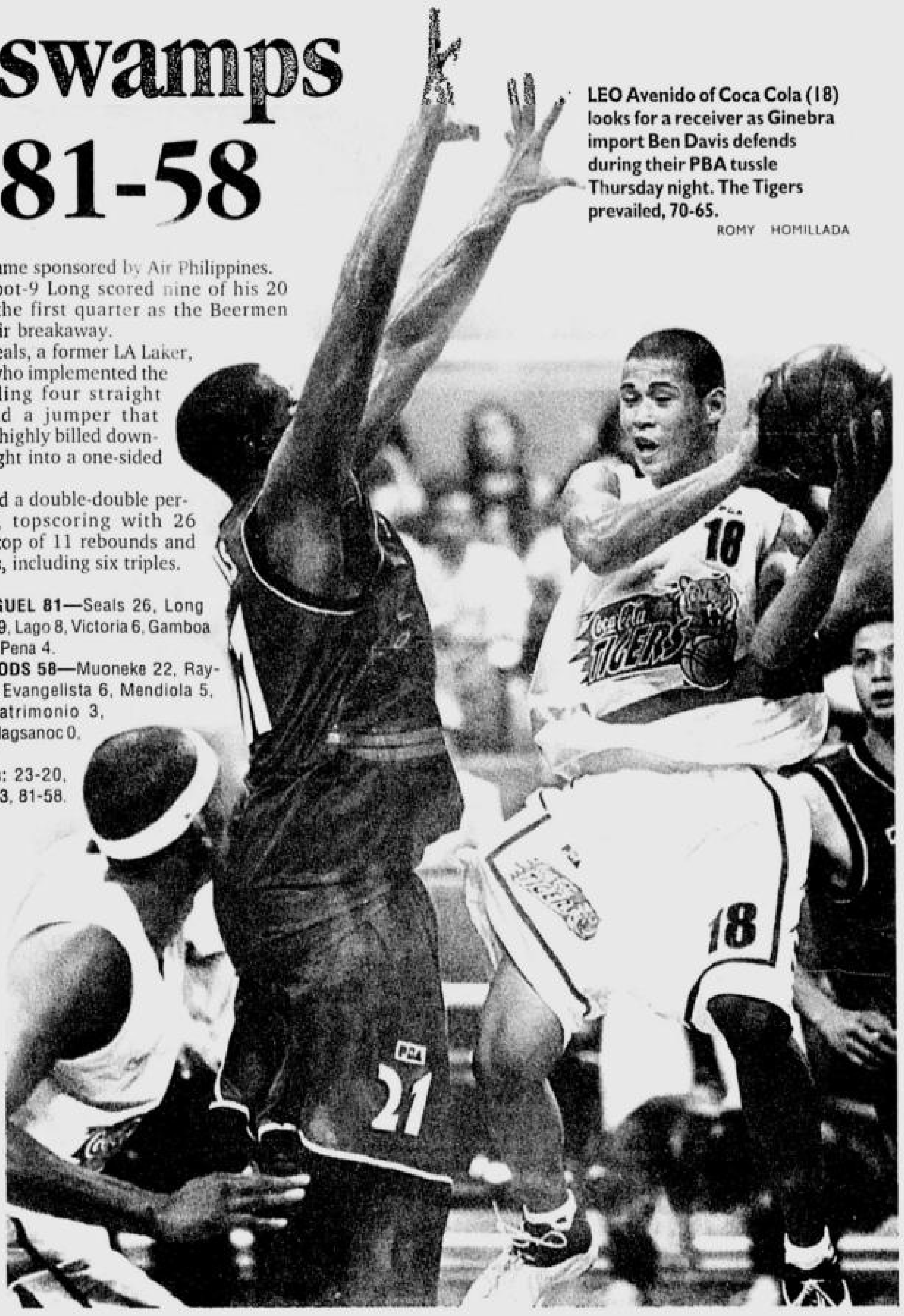
Seals had a double-double performance, topscoring with 26 points on top of 11 rebounds and four assists, including six triples.

Scores:

SAN MIGUEL 81—Seals 26, Long 20, Belasco 9, Lago 8, Victoria 6, Gamboa 4, Mente 4, Pena 4.

PUREFOODS 58—Muoneke 22, Raymundo 17, Evangelista 6, Mendiola 5, Price 5, Patrimonio 3, Balingit 0, Magsanoc 0, Guerrero 0

Quarters: 23-20, 48-30, 55-43, 81-58.



LEO Avenido of Coca Cola (18) looks for a receiver as Ginebra import Ben Davis defends during their PBA tussle Thursday night. The Tigers prevailed, 70-65.
ROMY HOMILLADA

Jones team formed

DEADSHOT Alex Compton and three other most valuable players will banner the MBA selection competing in the Williams Jones Cup in Taiwan from July 13-24.

Joining Compton, the 1999 MVP of LBC Batangas, are fellow MVPs Romel Adducul of Osaka Pangasinan (2000), John Ferriols of RCPI Negros (1998) and Eddie Laure, also of LBC Batangas (2001).

The 5-foot-11 Compton, who had given up RP team slots in favor of homegrown talents many times in the past, will be playing as an import alongside Jeffrey Flowers, Gilbey's Olongapo's 6-foot-8 cen .

This will be Flowers' third Jones C appearance after leading the league in rebounding las ear as a FedEx Laguna Laker.

Rounding out the 13-man ros re VJ Santos of Pampanga, Jercules Tangkay an ephen Padilla of Cebuana Lhuillier, Billy Mamaril and ter Simon of Professional Davao, Peter Naron of Casino Cagayan de Oro, Jeff Sanders of LBC Batangas and Reynel Hugnatan of RCPI Negros.

Roy Luarca

PCU shocks Letran, 67-56; Bombers win

By Dennis U. Eroa

WORKHORSE Robert Sanz saved Philippine Christian University from another endgame collapse as the Dolphins tripped the Letran Knights, 67-56, yesterday in the NCAA men's basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum.

The 6-foot-2 Sanz buried two straight triples in the final three minutes, repulsing the Knights who rallied from a 16-point deficit to come to within six, 51-57, 4:15 left.

Erratic and lacking the fire they've displayed in downing San Beda Red Lions in the opener last Saturday, the Knights failed to score in the first five minutes, giving the Dolphins an early 9-0 lead.

In the second game, Jose Rizal University downed Mapua, 84-75, creating a six-way tie for second place. Mapua, JRU, Letran, PCU, San Sebastian College and UPHR sport identical 1-1 win-loss cards.

College of St. Benilde enjoys the solo lead with two straight wins, while host San Beda remains at the bottom with 0-2 card. The Red Lions, however, are still waiting for the outcome of its protest against UPHR which won, 79-77, in overtime last Wednesday.

As their fans looked in disbelief, the Dolphins looked in trouble as Ronjay Enrile spearheaded a blazing rally in the fourth period. But Sanz came to the rescue with his second triple, giving PCU a safe, 63-54 lead, barely a minute remaining.

PCU lost a 19-point lead in losing its debut against the Mapua Cardinals, 74-68, at the Araneta Coliseum.

PBL veteran Bernzon Franco, Alwin Ilagan and Nelson Gatdula also played well for the Dolphins, who improved their record to 1-1.

Scores:

PCU 67—Sanz 18, Franco 14, Soriano 10, Roque 8, Gaspi 7, Gatdula 4, Ilagan 4, Gementiza 2, Hawk 0, Legayada 0, Guiyab 0.

LETRAN 56—Enrile 18, Bautista 10, Aldave 8, Sta. Cruz 8, Sillona 4, Aban 4, Syhongpan 2, Rodriguez 2, Santos 0, Edwards 0, Ang 0.

Quarters: 19-15, 33-27, 51-35, 67-56.

'RP athletes need prayers'

MORE than 10,000 Filipinos living in South Korea will serve as support base for national athletes who will fight for supremacy in the Busan Asian Games starting Sept. 29.

PSC Chair Eric Buhain yesterday instructed his senior executive assistant Sean Solis and Asian Games Task Force representative Tats Suzara to meet with representatives of the Korean-based Filipinos to drum up support for the nationals who are aiming to improve the country's one-gold medal performance in the 1998 Bangkok Asiad.

"Every cheer that we could muster is important. Our athletes need not only applauses but also prayers. We are tapping every Filipino in Busan to help lift our athletes' spirits," Buhain said.

A group calling itself "Friends of the Filipino athletes" donate Philippine flaglets to the cheering squads.

Solis and Suzara will represent the PSC in the Chiefs of Mission meeting in Busan on July 7-9. The four-man Philippine delegation will be led by RP Chief of Mission Tom Carrasco and POC representative Nestor Ilagan.

"Aside from their Task Force-related duties, the two PSC officials will have to double up on their task as they meet with embassy officials and the Filipino community in Korea," Buhain said.

Buhain is banking on the support of the overseas Filipinos at competition venues as local telecast of the event remains unsure. Local television networks are having a hard time raising funds to buy the broadcast rights from the Busan Asian Games Organizing Committee.

Meanwhile, Carrasco will also meet with delegation heads from other countries to assure smooth coordination.

Dennis U. Eroa

Joey bats for basketball upliftment

THE PROPOSED merger between the Metropolitan Basketball Association and the Philippine Basketball League isn't plausible yet. But Joey Concepcion, proponent of a unified league, remains hopeful that something could still be done regarding the matter.

"If it does not materialize this time, I'm sure it could be done in other forms," said Concepcion, president and chief executive officer of RFM Corp., during yesterday's Scoop sa Kamayan West Avenue.

Concepcion, also a former PBL chairman, said he was given full authority by MBA chairman Santi Araneta to broach the merger idea to the PBL.

"Basically we tried to see if a unified amateur league is possible and how the PBL and the MBA could merge. My intentions are for the upliftment of Philippine basketball," said Concepcion. "Our goal is to intensify grassroots development program by combining the PBL's collegiate setup and the MBA's regional concept."

Regardless of the outcome of the unification talks, Concepcion said RFM is committed to help the development of a grassroots basketball program.

During the same forum, PBL commissioner Trinidad admitted that he and MBA counterpart Chito Loyzaga have exploratory talks regarding the envisioned unified league.

"The problem is, *hindi pa nakakarating sa ganoong* stage *yung pag-uusap namin ni* Chito (Loyzaga)," said Trinidad. "What we were asking were the parameters of the merge. So I don't think it's feasible for now,"

PBL chair Dioceldo Sy said that while the merger isn't possible at the moment, MBA teams are welcome to join the PBL.

Meanwhile, MBA marketing and business development director Ramon Tuason thanked Concepción for taking the initiative in the unification talks."

"He (Concepcion) has the vision of a unified league and does his part to make it possible," said Tuason, also the MBA founder. "We owe him a debt of gratitude."

Roy Luarca

7 cage greats enshrined to Hall of Fame tomorrow

By Dennis Eroa

MEMBERS of the Asiad-bound national basketball team, Basketball Association of the Philippines officials, Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain and Sen. Robert Jaworski will grace the third enshrinement ceremonies for the basketball Hall of Fame tomorrow at the Manila Peninsula Hotel ballroom.

To be enshrined are basketball greats Loreto Carbonell, Kurt Bachmann, Alfonso "Boy" Marquez, Geronimo Cruz and the late Carlos Badion, Eduardo Lim and Mariano Tolentino.

"Truly the evening is going to be memorable for all of us. The new members of the Hall of Fame deserve the honor and appreciation of our country," said former representative and now Bukidnon Gov. Jose R. Zubiri Jr. who chairs the steering committee.

The Board of Trustees of the National Basketball Hall of Fame Foundation Inc. is headed by respected businessmen-sportsmen Manolo Lopez of Meralco and Fernando Zobel de Ayala of the Ayala Corporation, chair and vice chair, respectively.

Already in the Hall of Fame are Fely Fajardo, Charles Brock, Jacinto Ciria Cruz, Primitivo Martinez, Ramoncito Campos, Ed Ocampo, Gabriel Fajardo, Narciso Bernardo, Lauro Mumar, Carlos Loyzaga, Rafael Hechanova Sr., Pocholo Martinez and Francisco Vestil.

BAP president Quintelino "Tiny" Literal, secretary general Graham Lim, legal counsel Bonifacio Alentajan and tresurer Christian Tan will lead the BAP group, while Buhain, a former star swimmer, is expected to bring his commissioners in the event.

National coach Jong Uichico and his players, who are deeply training for the Asian Games in September at Busan, South Korea, will also attend the gathering.

Badion, Lim, Carbonell, Bachmann, Marquez and Cruz saw action for the proud Philippine team which placed eighth in the 1959 Chile World Basketball Championship, in the Olympics and excelled in the Asian Games and ABC tournament.

Clutario, Del Rosario stay in the running

HONG KONG—Liza Clutario kept the Philippines in contention for the women's masters title of the 17th Asian Tenpin Bowling Championships, tallying the best score among the Filipino campaigners after the first block of competitions at the South China Athletics Association Bowling Center here.

Her total of 1620 pins ranked seventh in the distaff side which Korean keglers dominated by snaring five of the top 10 spots.

Liza del Rosario, the meet's double gold medalists, is two notches below Clutario at ninth place with a score of 1594 while Ces Yap is at 13th spot with 1561.

The three remain in the running for the top three spots in the grand finals of the weeklong meet featuring the best bowlers from 22 Asian countries, as the final block is to be played today.

Korea's Kim Sikyung and Cha Mijung, the same player Del Rosario beat out for the gold medal in the women's all events, currently hold the top 2 spots with 1735 and 1686 pins, respectively.

Despite Del Rosario's gold medal feat in the women's all events the other day, the Sokors have now dislodged the Filipinos on top of the standings with four medals, the final two courtesy of their men's team and Kim Kyung Min, winner of the men's all events.

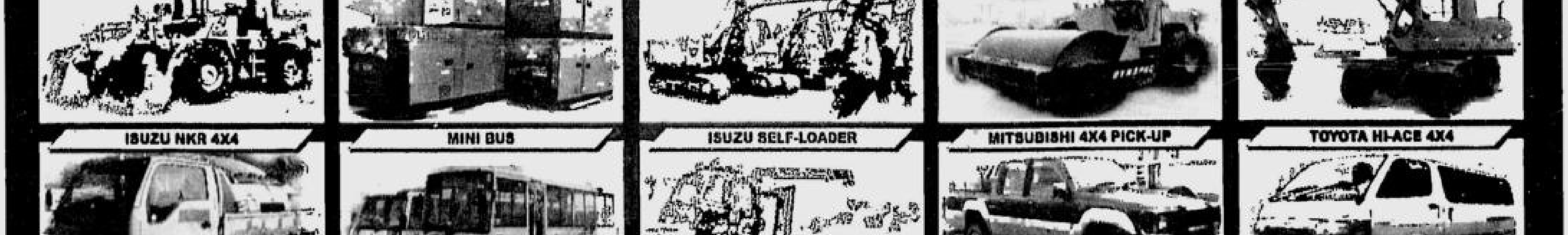
Dennis U. Eroa

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

TENNIS: Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships, Day #11 Highlights at 8 a.m. (r – 3 p.m.), Day 11 - Men's Singles Semifinals at 10 a.m. (r), Day 12 - Ladies Singles Final, Men's and Mixed Double Finals at 9 p.m. on Star Sports

GOLF: U.S. Women's Open Golf Championship, Second Round at 1 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. (r), Third Round tomorrow at 3 a.m. on ESPN



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METRO

Editor Louie C. Camino

Missing shabu: 'Chemist did it' /A23

VICENCIO

Suspended

By Tina Santos

THE ANTI-GRAFT court Sandiganbayan has ordered the suspension for 90 days of Malabon City Mayor Amado Vicencio in connection with the allegedly anomalous awarding of the shelved P122-

SUSPENDED/ A23

Edsa's no-left-turn rule starts today

By Leila B. Salaverria

THE METRO Manila Development Authority is set to implement today the start of the no-left-turn rule at major intersections on Edsa, hoping it would ease the terrible traffic situation in the metropolis.

Starting today, vehicles on Edsa will not be allowed to make a left turn at the Kamias-Kamuning, Timog-East Avenue and Santolan-Boni Serrano intersections.

In the first week of the implementation of the new policy, the MMDA, however, will not penalize drivers who violate the no-left-turn rule, according to Traffic Operations Director Ernesto Camarillo.

"We are still in the period of information and education, so for the first week we will not apprehend policy violators," Camarillo said.

He said the MMDA would soon imple-

EDSA'S NO-LEFT-TURN/ A23

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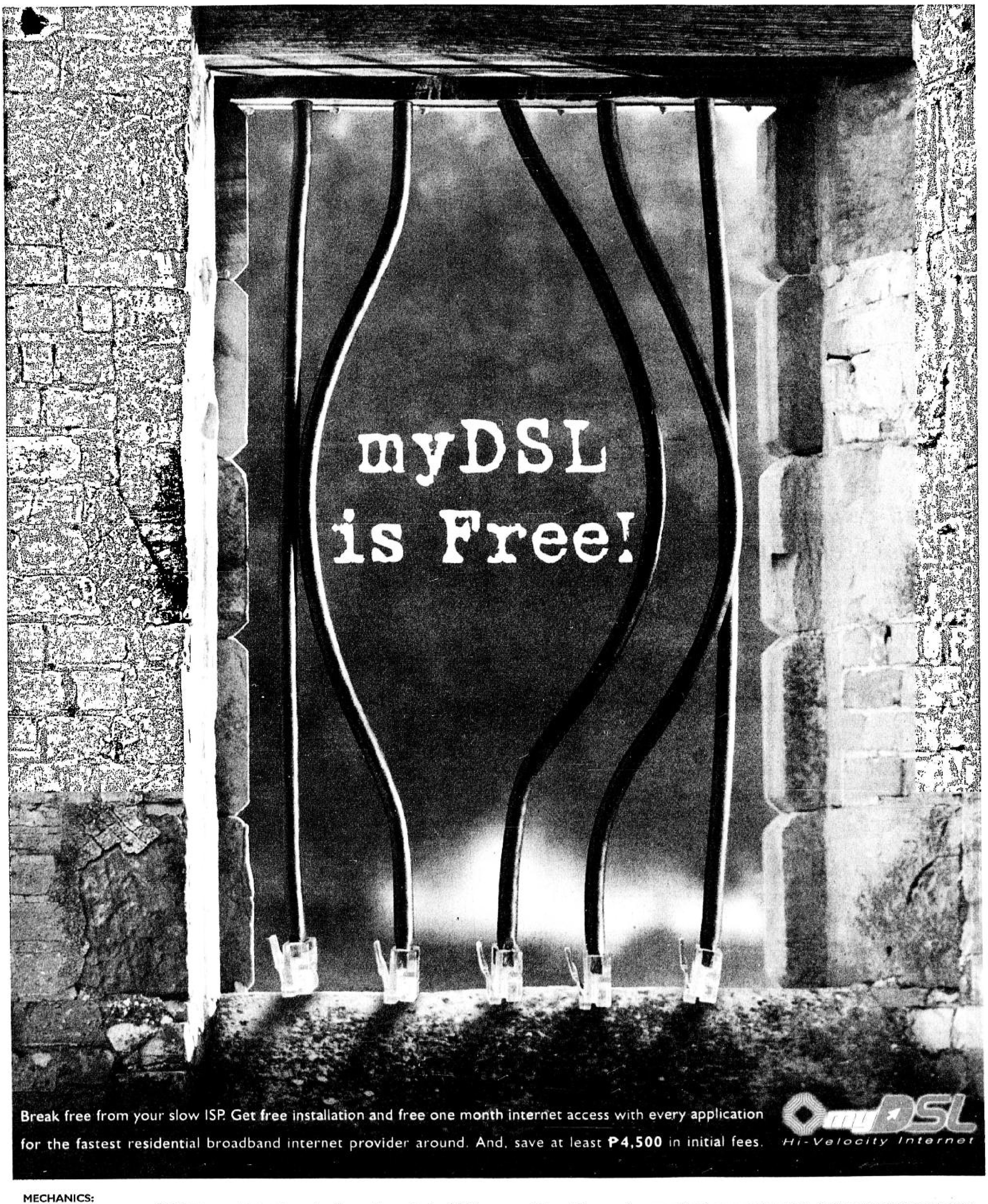

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Malabon fends off Caloocan's Baesa claim

By Tina Santos

THE ROW among top officials of Malabon and Caloocan over the contested 40 hectares of land in Libis, Baesa, continues to heat up.

Malabon-Navotas Rep. Ricky Sandoval branded as mere "political gimmick" the move of Caloocan City Mayor Reynaldo Malonzo and District 1 Rep. Enrico "Recom" Echiverri to nullify the cityhood of Malabon.

Sandoval said Malonzo and Echiverri were "grandstanding" when the latter accused Malabon officials of annexing the property and including it in Malabon's new boundary without consulting the affected residents.

"That's only a political gimmick," Sandoval said in a phone interview, referring to Malonzo's earlier announcement that he would bring the matter to the Supreme Court.

On the move of Echiverri, who has filed a measure to amend Republic Act 9019 or the act converting Malabon into a city before the House of Representatives, Sandoval said the measure will not prosper in Congress because RA 9019 is already a law.

"That's (Echiverri's) right as a congressman, but as far as we're concerned, the passage of RA 9019 was the result of more than two years of extensive deliberations and public hearings," Sandoval said.

Sandoval said prior to the approval of the bill, all concerned authorities, including the Land Management Bureau, have been called in during committee hearings to show proof that Barangays 160 and 161 in Libis, Baesa, are legally part of Malabon.

"(RA 9019) was (an act of) legislation, and this could possibly be changed by another congressional act, but Echiverri must explain his side well to justify his claim," Sandoval said.

Malonzo earlier blamed Echiverri and former Caloocan Rep. Luis "Baby" Asistio for their alleged failure to oppose the approval of Malabon's cityhood.

"They should have defended our claims, but they allowed the bill to be passed by Congress without notifying the city government," Malonzo told affected residents. "They neglected to watch over the boundary of the city."

Pasay cops are back

By Christian V. Esguerra

THEY'RE back.

The 341-strong Pasay police force that bungled the rescue of 4-year-old hostage Dexter Balala in May will return to duty today following a 20-day training on hostage crisis management in Subic.

The officers will resume their old posts despite Pasay Mayor Wenceslao Trinidad's earlier appeal to the police hierarchy to subject the city policemen to rigorous screening.

Erring lawmen, Trinidad said, should be relieved or dismissed.

But the fate of the 21 officers, including ex-Pasay police chief Eduardo dela Cerna, is still up in the air.

The 21 men have been slapped with criminal and administrative charges for their part in the May 31 hostage incident, which resulted in the death of Balala and his captor, Diomedes Talvo.

While expecting an "improved and physically fit" Pasay force, interim police chief Oscar Catalan yesterday said "a reform of the city police is badly needed."

"Police work should be improved and the officers should have a good working environment," said Catalan, who will return to his post in the Southern Police District headquarters as investigation and intelligence chief.

The returning Pasay officers may actually see a different headquarters when they return today.

Their replacements renovated the office, repainted it and got rid of the cockroaches.

Catalan yesterday slammed the returnees for bringing with them the typewriters, chairs, and tables in the police office before they went to Subic for retraining.

As a result, he said he and his men had to repair whatever equipment was left behind, while trying to improve police visibility in Pasay.

The Pasay officers' "unprofessionalism" underscored the need to reform the city police in terms of working environment and police work, Catalan said.

IBOTO NATIN
KAPITAN
RYAN
GONZALES
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BARANGAY

LET THE SHOW BEGIN
Posters, streamers, and banners spring up overnight and cover a lot of space around the Mandaluyong City Hall circle, signalling the start of the campaign for the local and Sangguniang Kabataan elections.
JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Dads move to close Pandacan oil depot

By Philip Tubeza

THE PANDACAN oil depot issue is not yet closed.

Opposition councilors at the Manila City Council are planning to file a case of mandamus on Monday and ask the court to order Manila Mayor Lito Atienza to implement the rezoning of the Pandacan oil depot area.

Councilor Bernardito Ang said he plans to file the petition next week after councilors Benjamin Asilo, Isko Moreno, and Nelissa Beltran informed him about their intention to join the petition.

Ang explained that while Atienza had signed a memorandum of understanding with the oil companies, the ordinance reclassifying the area is still in place and has not been revoked.

"This has nothing to do with personalities," Ang stressed. "But the integrity of the city council has to be protected.

"I don't know how the mayor can sign the agreement," he said. "(Atienza) initiated the closure and we did our part."

Ang said since the mayor has signed the MOU, Atienza should at least formally inform the city council if he wants the ordinance amended or revoked.

Observers note that the city councilors are now in a tight spot because they will have to do the dirty work of changing the ordinance reclassifying the Pandacan depot area from a heavy industrial zone into a commercial one.

To do this, they would have to reverse their earlier position that the depot should go—a political stance that they have impressed on their constituents.

"The mayor signed the ordinance and so he should implement it," Ang said. "But how can our constituents follow city ordinances if the mayor doesn't (implement the law)? We should respect the law."

Atienza has defended his decision to sign the MOU with the oil companies, saying that it was a "Solomonic decision."

He said the MOU is supposed to address the security concerns raised by the presence of the oil depot, and hopes to avert a national crisis if the depot is closed.

The MOU allows the oil companies to apply for a permit to operate from city hall.

Atienza said he would grant a 6-month permit once the oil firms apply for it.

Makati employee killed in Kalayaan accident

By Leila Salaverria

AN EMPLOYEE of the Makati City Hall was killed while another is in critical condition after a passenger jeepney lost its brakes and slammed into them yesterday morning.

Arlyn Espera, a resident of Makati City, died on the spot while Mamerto Morata, 29, is in critical condition at the Ospital ng Makati, according to SPO1 Miguel Descalso of the Makati City Police Traffic Division.

Both victims were working at Makati City's Department of Environment and Sanitation and were tasked with taking care of the greenery in the city.

Espera was pruning the trees along Kalayaan Avenue near C-5 Road while Morata was standing by a parked water tanker, which he was driving, when the C-5-bound jeepney (NYB-498) driven by Sabri Yusob, 33, lost its brakes at about 9:30 a.m., police said.

SPO1 Descalso said Yusob swerved to the right to avoid oncoming traffic and tried to hit a wall, but he lost control and skidded for a few feet before finally hitting Espero and Morata and pinning them between the jeepney and the water tanker.

Yusob was unhurt and surrendered to the police after the accident. No other person was injured because Yusob did not have passengers, said Descalso.

Rail residents want feasible relocation site

By Tonette Orejas,
PDI Central Luzon Desk

MEMBERS of the League of Urban Poor for Action (Lupa) have again asked the government to find an adequate relocation site for the 27,000 families residing along the abandoned tracks of the Philippine National Railway (PNR), stretching from Caloocan City to the Clark Special Economic Zone in Pampanga.

The families will have to leave their houses by the train tracks to give way to the Manila-Clark Northrail project.

Lupa renewed its appeal to government as the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources began conducting environmental impact assessment of the Northrail's Caloocan-Valenzuela segment.

An environmental compliance certificate (ECC) was granted last November for the Valenzuela-Clark section, the project's second phase.

The Presidential Commission for the Central Luzon Growth Corridor said the assessment was a prerequisite for the release of the project's ECC and the fast-tracking of the Northrail's relocation program.

The North Luzon Railways Corp. (NLRC) will build a modern rail system along the 100-kilometer stretch of the former PNR to link Clark to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and other parts of Metro Manila.

The Northrail was also designed as a vital link to Clark's Diosdado Macapagal International Airport.

Remigio Mercado, Central Luzon director of the National Economic and Development Authority, said Japan's Obuchi Fund has yet to approve the loan request for the Northrail.

Mercado said the right-of-way acquisition and the relocation plan were important requirements in the loan's approval.

The commission said the EMB has required the NLRC to provide a timetable on the relocation of the affected families.

It said the right-of-way for the Caloocan section of the PNR had been released, allowing the transfer of 197 families.

The commission assured that "in line with the fast-tracking of the relocation of the affected families, the Northrail and the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) have devised the necessary measures to relocate more than 10,000 families in Bulacan."

The HUDCC, it added, is coordinating with the different local government units to finalize the relocation program in Pampanga.

Jess del Prado, Lupa chair, said the NLRC and the HUDCC have yet to accept the proposal for on-town relocation. He said this was more feasible and acceptable to the families who would be displaced by the project.

He said the proposed resettlement sites in Norzagaray town in Bulacan were "inadequate, expensive and remote."

"The government will make it very difficult for us to recover from the displacement if it chooses to move us away from our sources of livelihood," Del Prado said. "We want the government to pursue our on-town proposal, which was approved by many of the mayors concerned."

METROBRIEFS

Floater in Malabon

THE BODY of a man, believed to be a victim of summary execution, was fished out of a creek in Malabon on Monday. Police said residents of Damzon Street, Muzon, Malabon reported seeing a large sack on the bank of the creek at around 5 a.m. When police opened up the sack, they found the body, which bore several stab wounds, stuffed inside a carton box. Police said the body, which was clad in denim pants and gray T-shirt, also had bruises and contusions on the forehead. An improvised ice pick was also found embedded in the victim's cheek. Police believed the man was killed somewhere else and his body dumped in the creek. *Tina Santos*

Suicide try in Caloocan

EX-ARMY man Angelito De Jesus was said to be high on illegal drugs when he tried to kill himself in Caloocan City Monday morning. Bystanders were stunned to see De Jesus, 40, formerly a corporal in the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, climbing an electric post, police said. According to witnesses, De Jesus climbed the post on the corner of F. Roxas and Codero Street, 5th Avenue, Grace Park, shortly after midnight. Witnesses told police De Jesus was visibly stoned. Residents sought the help of the police and firemen, who rushed to the scene and talked De Jesus out of jumping from the high post. *Tina Santos*

Burglary in Quezon City

SUSPECTED burglar Renon Briones, 34, tried to elude lawmen by hiding in a stinking canal for seven hours on Wednesday. According to SPO3 Jojo Estrella of the Central Police District Station 2, Briones, 34, of Barangay San Antonio, San Francisco Del Monte, Quezon City, broke into the house of businessman Eliazar Don Verano, 31, at around 8 a.m. Police learned that Verano left his maid, Winnie Guzman, 19, to tend to the house on Segundo Street, Barangay Sta. Cruz, Quezon City. Police said the maid screamed when she saw Briones in the house, about to flee with Verano's Pioneer Video Compact Disc Player worth P20,000. Verano's neighbors chased the suspect, who hid in a canal near the old Pantranco bus station. At 3 p.m., Briones emerged from his hiding place thinking it was all clear. But he was surprised to find Verano's neighbors and other bystanders outside, police said. The mob greeted the suspect with punches and kicks. Responding lawmen saved the suspect from the mob by arresting him. *Alcuin Papa*

Swindle in Maysilo

NANCY Celestial and Jane Mariano are now in jail for allegedly trying to swindle Babylyn Tamayo, of Maysilo, Malabon, on Wednesday. Police said Celestial, 37, of Bocaue, Bulacan, and Mariano, 29, of Salitran, Dasmariñas, Cavite, were members of the Budol-Bodol gang. Three other gang members accompanied Celestial and Mariano when they tried to pull a fast one on Tamayo. They tried to trick Tamayo into giving up her jewelry in exchange for "P50,000." The "cash," police said, turned out to be paper cut the size of peso bills. When she learned she'd been had, Tamayo, 20, chased the suspects when they got off the jeepney they were riding at Maysilo at about 11:30 a.m. Tamayo managed to corner Celestial on the spot, while Mariano was nabbed in a follow-up operation by the police. But Tamayo's jewelry, worth P5,000, were not recovered. *Tina Santos*

Arrest in Maypajo

A 14-YEAR-OLD girl was arrested for allegedly trying to rob her foster parents of some P325,000 in cash and assorted jewelry Thursday night in Caloocan City. Police said the girl, a resident of Maypajo, Caloocan, was accompanied by her 21-year-old boyfriend, of F. Varona Street, Tondo, Manila, and an 18-year-old female friend, of Tambakan corner J.P. Rizal Street, Maypajo, when they tried to steal the attaché case of her foster father which contained P25,000 in cash and assorted jewelry worth P300,000 at around 11:30 p.m. According to officer-on-case PO2 Arnel de Guzman, the father sought the help of police who immediately searched his house. Police said they were able to find the jewelry inside the girl's room. During interrogation, the girl tagged her boyfriend and female friend as the culprits. *Tina Santos*

Robbery in Bagong Silang

JEFFREY Madrilejos, 18, of Bagong Silang, Caloocan, and Joey Amita, 22, of Doña Juana Street, Camarin, Caloocan, were accused of robbing a family driver of P8,000 in cash and valuables in Caloocan City Wednesday night. Their cohort, Juan Alindatu Jr., 24, also of Bagong Silang, managed to elude arrest. Police said victim Jomar Superiano, 30, of Barrio San Jose, Caloocan, was held up by the three suspects while he was walking on Kanlaon Street, Bagong Silang at around 8 p.m. The following day, Superiano claimed that while he was in Bagong Silang on board a passenger jeepney, he recognized one of his co-passengers as among the three men who took his wristwatch, cell phone and cash. Police arrested the suspect, who turned out to be Madrilejos. The arrested suspect then led police to Amita. Police are hot on the trail of Alindatu. *Tina Santos*

Murder in Dagat-Dagatan

POLICE are now hunting down businessman Antonio Francisco for allegedly killing Robert Lim, a former employee, in Caloocan City Wednesday night. Police said Francisco, of Phase 3-C Tulia Alley, Dagat-Dagatan, Caloocan, and owner of Surplus Electronics Supply, accused Lim of stealing his motorcycle. Police said Lim, 45, an electrician, of Phase 3-C Dagat-Dagatan, Caloocan, was walking home at around 9 p.m. when he chanced upon Francisco, who was drinking with a group of friends, in Phase 2-E, Dagat-Dagatan. Witnesses told police that Francisco stood up, approached Lim and accused the victim of stealing his motorcycle At the height of their argument, Francisco lost his temper, drew his .45-caliber pistol and shot Lim in the left eye killing him instantly. *Tina Santos*

Salesgirl robbed, raped in heavy rain

By Philip Tubeza

WHILE a heavy downpour drenched Metro Manila Thursday night, a young salesgirl of SM Manila was crying in pain as she was being raped in front of the Manila City Hall.

The "pretty" 20-year-old victim of Tondo, Manila could not do anything when her unidentified assailant threatened her with a fan knife, said an investigator at the Western Police District Women and Children's Desk.

The suspect even took her P500, the investigator said.

Police said the incident happened at about 8 p.m. on the street island beside the Lagusnilad.

The victim was on her way home and was waiting for a ride when the culprit suddenly approached her from behind and poked a fan knife on her.

"The suspect asked for her cellular phone, but she had none so he took her P500," police said. "Unfortunately, the culprit noticed she was pretty."

The suspect then dragged the victim to the center island and raped her near a wrought iron piece in the shape of a Christmas tree with a Christmas lantern above.

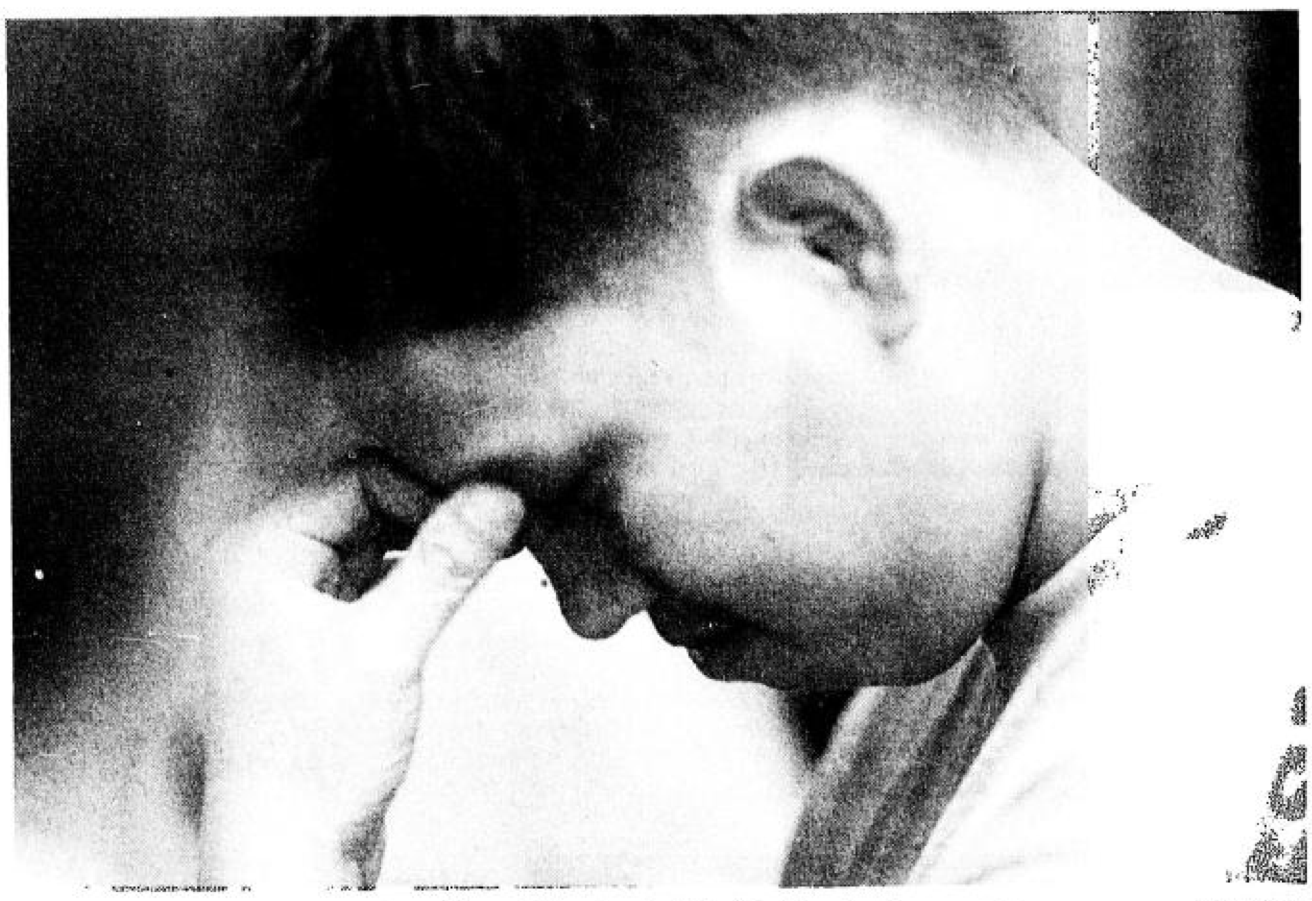
"The passing motorists did not notice her since it was dark and raining hard," police said. "Luckily, the culprit did not kill her."

Investigators said the victim had to ask for clothes from vendors since her uniform was soaked and dirtied with mud.

The salesgirl then went to the WPD headquarters at around midnight to report the incident.

She was expected to go back to the Women and Children's Desk last night with her medico-legal report.

The victim told the police she would recognize her rapist if she saw him again.



SUSPECT Mapoy's salary as NBI employee did not match his lifestyle, the bureau says. ERIK ARAZAS

MISSING SHABU

'Chemist did it'

By Philip C. Tubeza

"*TARANTADO!* We work hard to take care of the bureau's name and look what you did!"

National Bureau of Investigation domestic intelligence chief Anthony Liongson was lashing at former NBI chemist Howell M. Mapoy, 29, who he said was behind the disappearance of more than seven kilos of shabu from the bureau's evidence room.

Mapoy, a resident of Grand Town Village, Sumapang Matanda, Malolos, Bulacan, and a former chemist in the NBI Forensic Chemistry Division, was presented to the media at the NBI headquarters yesterday.

He could only shake his head and cover his face with his hands.

"You brought dishonor to the bureau and now you can't even look people in the eye," the angry Liongson told the suspect.

NBI employees said Mapoy had cried before he was presented to the press. He denied pilfering the 7.3 kilos of shabu, they said.

The NBI believes otherwise.

NBI acting director Fermin N. Nasol said Mapoy failed the lie-detector test and his salary is not commensurate with his lifestyle.

When he was arrested Thursday in his house, Mapoy also had 20.58 grams of shabu, the NBI officials said.

Lawyer Rustico Vigilia, NBI domestic intelligence field operations chief, said Mapoy pilfered the shabu from March 1, 2001 until the pilferage was discovered in April.

"Being a chemist, he had access to the bureau's evidence room," Vigilia said. "The keys were just in a file cabinet."

He said Mapoy and his relatives apparently sold the shabu that he took from the NBI evidence room.

When the bureau began investigating the pilferage, Mapoy "immediately filed a request for transfer to the Bureau of Mines even though his appointment papers were not yet in order at that time," Nasol said.

Mapoy joined the NBI in 1997. He allegedly tried to transfer to the Bureau of Mines on May 13, Nasol said.

The chemist went on leave to "avoid being (investigated)," he added.

When it was reported that three FCD officials had been relieved for the loss of the shabu, Mapoy came back to the bureau on May 28 to retrieve his personal belongings.

"He was quizzed and he underwent (the) polygraph test which was routinely done to all FCD personnel," Nasol said. Mapoy failed the test, he said.

Nasol said investigators also found out that Mapoy was "living beyond his means."

"His monthly income is disproportionate to the high amortization of his lot, daily family sustenance, payment for his brand-new scooter and an air-conditioned residence," Nasol said.

NBI agents applied for an arrest warrant from Manila Regional Trial Court Branch 7 Judge Enrico Lanzanas and arrested the suspect on Thursday morning in Malolos.

Vigilia said Mapoy would be charged with possession of illegal drugs. The NBI is also studying filing qualified theft charges against him, Vigilia added.

NBI agent charged with Ong kidnap

By Philip C. Tubeza

NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation agent Alex T. Advento and nine others were charged before the Department of Justice for the kidnapping of heiress Charmaine Dayco Ong.

The NBI also charged Advento administratively for losing his bureau ID and not reporting it to his superiors.

"He has been subpoenaed by the DOJ for a preliminary investigation," said Deputy Director Anthony B. Liongson, NBI domestic intelligence chief. "That means he (might be) involved."

Besides Advento, the PNP-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group also charged Elmer T. Calixto, Norman Tulabat, Felizardo Pagulalan, a certain Charlie, and five John Does.

The DOJ has set another preliminary investigation hearing on July 9.

Calixto, who has apparently turned state witness, implicated Advento in Ong's kidnapping.

Ong was kidnapped last month and was held captive at 29 California St. in Villasol Subdivision in Barangay Anonas, Angeles City. She reportedly escaped with the help of one of her kidnappers.

Advento was linked to the kidnapping after his NBI ID was found in one of the cars used by the kidnappers.

NBI acting director Fermin Nasol told the INQUIRER that Advento was also charged administratively "last week for not reporting the loss" of his ID.

Advento was charged administratively before the NBI legal department "for negligence and refusal to comply with reasonable office rules."

"We have let the police handle the criminal aspect of the case," Nasol said.

Advento's uncle Ricardo Perez told investigators that his nephew had left the ID in the car when Perez brought him to work sometime ago.

The car allegedly belonged to Perez's late wife. Advento does not own a car.

Advento's ID was found in a red Nissan Sentra (TPE-218) that Ong's kidnappers left on Narra Street at Clarkview subdivision in Barangay Malabanlas, Angeles City. The ID was issued in 1996 during the time of former NBI Director Mariano Mison.

The NBI is now closely watching Advento's movements since "the arrest warrant could be issued anytime."

But DOJ sources said it would all depend on the resolution of the panel of prosecutors conducting the preliminary investigation.

The hearing might take at least three weeks, depending on the defense lawyers' legal maneuvering. Kidnapping for ransom is a non-bailable offense.

Nayon concessionaires drop raps vs Planas

By Christian V. Esguerra

PLANAS

ALL'S well that ends well?

Charito Planas must have made a big sigh of relief yesterday after Nayong Pilipino concessionaires withdrew the contempt charge they had filed against her in connection with the park's closure last month.

During yesterday's hearing, lawyer Oliver Lozano withdrew the complaint since the theme park has practically remained open despite its closure on June 25.

In fact, people can visit Nayong Pilipino for free from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, according to Planas, the park's executive director.

The withdrawal "just shows that I should not have been held for contempt" for proceeding with the closure of the park, said Planas who had been ordered arrested by Judge Henrick Gingoyon.

She had posted a P6,000 bail for her temporary liberty.

With the park still open, concessionaires could continue to operate pending the resolution of their petition for a preliminary injunction, Lozano said.

The concessionaires sought the injunction to keep Nayon management from closing the park and evicting them. Judge Gingoyon is set to hear the motion on July 10.

The contempt charge against Planas was part of the raging legal battle initiated by Lozano's camp following the theme park's closure.

Both Planas and Edgardo Manda of the Manila International Airport Authority are facing graft charges for authorizing the closure through a "patently illegal" memorandum of agreement.

Lozano argued that the park could not be closed until Congress repeals Presidential Decree No. 37 which created Nayon in 1972.

Cable TV firm protests search

GLOBAL Cable TV, which the National Bureau of Investigation said aired the World Cup 2002 games without the necessary permits, is protesting what it said was an illegal search of its office last June 26.

A Global Cable TV statement said that on that date, men claiming to be agents of the NBI and the National Telecommunications Commission came to its office but did not present proper identification and papers to show the legality of the search.

The statement said Global Cable TV officials believed the search had been set up by a broadcast company which it did not identify.

Global Cable TV's legal counsel, the Gutierrez, Sudiam and Villanueva law office, said the firm deserves the right to take the proper legal action in connection with the "illegal" entry.

Global Cable TV president Philip Chien said that in the case of the World Cup airing, the firm only received the signal from the Thailand satellite that was undergoing testing.

"We even tried to inquire from the World Cup organizers through the Internet," Chen said in the statement. "We didn't find any official agent here in the Philippines.

"If there's any agent of exclusivity here in the country, they should have informed us through writing or the Philippine Cable TV Association. We learned that Dream has the exclusivity only now through newspaper reports."

Edsa's no-left-turn rule starts ...

From page A21

ment the same policy at other main intersections along Edsa.

The MMDA has prescribed alternative routes. Those heading for Kamuning from Cubao should take the Edsa-Timog flyover, turn right on NIA Road towards East Avenue, turn right on East Avenue and cross Edsa to Timog Avenue.

Those going to Kamias from Timog can turn right on Scout Borromeo, left on Sgt. Esguerra, left on Timog, go straight to Scout Ybardolaza and turn left on Kamuning before crossing Edsa to Kamias.

Motorists going to Timog from Cubao can take the Timog flyover, turn right on NIA Road to East Avenue, right on East Avenue and cross Edsa to Timog.

Those heading for East Avenue from Quezon Avenue can turn right on Scout Borromeo before reaching Timog, then turn left on Scout Esguerra, left again on Timog to cross Edsa to East Avenue.

Those heading to Santolan from Ortigas can take the Edsa-Santolan flyover, turn right on Main Avenue, right on 5th or 6th Street, right again on Boni Serrano, then cross Edsa to Santolan.

Motorists going to Boni Serrano from P. Tuason can turn right on Main Avenue, left on 2nd Street, left again on Santolan, then cross Edsa to Boni Serrano.

The traffic movement along C-5 is also modified. Starting today, no left turns from C-5 to Ortigas will be allowed. Vehicles in Rosario must turn right on Ortigas towards Meralco and take the U-turn at the ground level of the C-5/Ortigas flyover.

"We are planning to expand the scheme to other intersections," Camarillo said yesterday.

He said the MMDA has deployed additional traffic enforcers to the affected areas to guide motorists and to inform them of the alternative routes.

Suspended

From page A21

million new city hall project to a favored contractor.

In a three-page resolution, Associate Justice Edilberto Sandoval, chair of the Sandiganbayan Second Division II, also ordered Vicencio's co-respondents suspended for three months.

Vicencio's co-respondents are Lida Sarmiento, Pio Dadula, Lauro Borja and city treasurer Ernesto Pabustan, all members of the local prequalifications, bids and awards committee (PBAC) which was chaired by the mayor.

Vice Mayor Jayjay Yambao takes over as acting mayor during Vicencio's suspension.

The court resolution directed the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to implement the order.

Based on complaints filed by opposition Councilors Eddie Torres and Chiqui Roque-Villaroel, Vicencio and the other respondents were charged with violation of Republic Act No. 3019, the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

Torres and Roque-Villaroel alleged that Vicencio and his co-respondents anomalously awarded to the Serg-PMGI joint venture the contract for the P122-million proposed city hall project in Barangay Catmon.

Vicencio has denied any irregularity in the awarding of the contract.

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Help needed

RAYPON

BENJAMIN RAYPON, 17, of San Pedro Laguna was the breadwinner of a poor family when he was found to have Subacute Sclerosing Pancephalitis or SSPE. This progressive, degenerative disease leads to stupor, dementia, central blindness, rigidity and death. The virus lives in the body and has an incubation period of 7 years. Benjamin is just one of 12 patients at the Philippine General Hospital who needs lifetime medication for the disease. Donors may contribute Intravenous Immunoglobulin or IVIG vials that can be purchased through Vizcarra Pharmaceutical. Cash donations may be deposited at the SSPE Children Care Foundation Current Account 0291-0369-96 and Dollar Savings Account 0294-0271-49, both at the BPI Forbes Park branch or e-mail sspefdn@yahoo.com, or call 522-1905, 522-5185 or 89. The SSPE Foundation works closely with PGH doctors headed by Dr. Aida M. Salonga, Chair, Section of Pediatric Neurology, Department of Neuro Sciences, UP-PGH Taft.

HERBERT CABALLERO, 19, is suffering from End Stage Renal disease and needs regular hemodialysis therapy. His parents are both jobless and need the help of kind donors to sustain treatment for their son. Donations may be sent to the Philippine Daily Inquirer. Please contact Celine Madamba or her assistant. They may be reached at 8978808 during office hours.

DOWN Syndrome patient Emma Quesada has a hole in the heart and a condition of the stomach making her look pregnant. Doctors are scared of operating on her since it may overload her malfunctioning heart. Help can be given to Emma through her brother Roy. Please call him at 0917-9363344.

MARICAR FARAON, 18, was diagnosed to have Rheumatic Heart Disease. She is an outpatient at the Section of Cardiology, Department of Pediatrics at PGH. Donations may be sent to the Philippine Daily Inquirer c/o Celine Madamba or her assistant. They may be reached at 8978808 during office hours.

BARBA

EDGARDO BARBA, 2 months old, was admitted to the Philippine Children Medical Center for Post Infection Hydrocephalus. His parents Edgardo and Elsie are requesting for financial assistance to save their son. Please deposit your cash or check donations to Edgardo Barba's account at Equitable-PCI Bank 0000000280073911.

RAMONA NIERVES, 61, must undergo an open-heart surgery for double valve replacement to save her life. Her family has limited resources and cannot afford the P550,000.00 needed for the operation. Financial help may be sent to her c/o her son Nixon. He may be contacted at 09174221169.

Business seminar for entrepreneurs

MULTI-AWARDED scientist and businessman Col. Gerry A. Dango will be sharing his vast and extensive knowledge in business and entrepreneurship in a business seminar called Starting & Managing a Small Business successfully on July 13, 2002 at the Dela Salle Greenhills, Mandaluyong City.

Colonel Dango is currently the President of Entrepreneurs Institute of the Philippines (EIP). He gained immense popularity in the local business arena with his notable invention, the Magiclip. Magiclip is a recipient of the coveted Filipino Inventors Award.

Dango was an Awardee of the Huwarang Pilipino 2001 in the area of science and technology. The invention is basically a paper and document holder that sticks to all sorts of surfaces. Its variations include magiclip clip-all, magiclip compuholder, and the magiclip message board, among many others.

Self-review program

MSA Academic Advancement Institute recently launched a self-review program for high school students interested in taking UPCAT and other college entrance tests.

The program consists of 4 steps, each one except the last, made up of a set of review books containing specially formulated questions with corresponding answers and solutions.

Step 1 presents 3,227 college entrance test questions, while Step 2 includes patterned match review questions. Solutions are found at the back of the books.

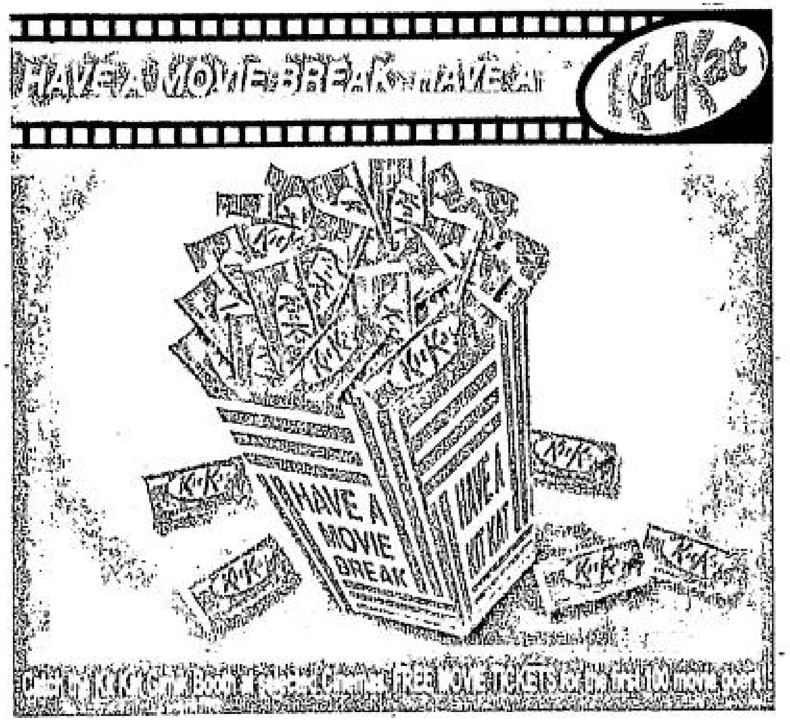
Step 3 challenges the students with MSA simulated college admissions tests with detailed explanation for answers to every question.

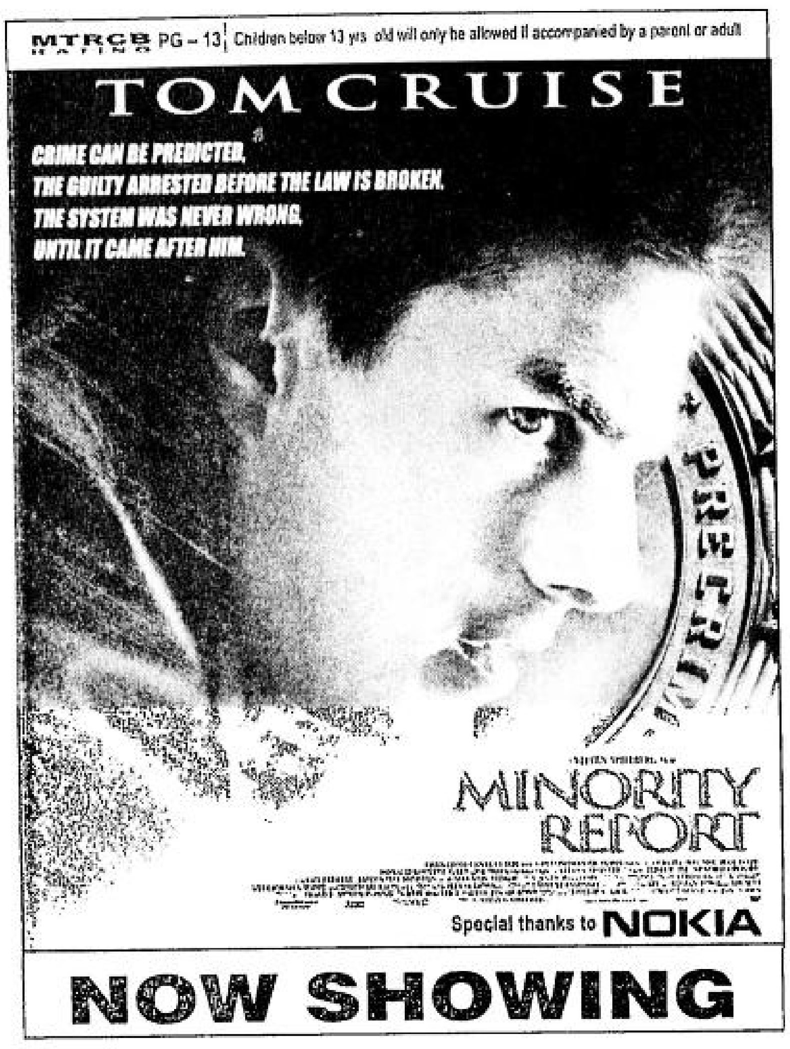
Step 4 is the MSA 4-Hour Dry Run Test to be held on July 20 and 27, 2002. This is open to all self-reviewers.

Self-review books cost only about one fourth of the cost of tuition fee in review centers, and they can be bought piecemeal, according to school director Merle S. Alferez.

"In addition, students are free from time pressure," Alferez said. "They can study at their own pace, but discipline is needed."

MSA self-review books are available at all National Bookstores. Registration for the Dry-Run Exam is going on. For details, please call 9257544, 9299159, 4356062, 6468243, 6468245, 8506550 and 8506551

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BAD COMPANY - P13 10:50, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30	SCOOBY DOO - GP 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00	MINORITY REPORT - P13 10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20

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1 BAD COMPANY	1 SCOOBY DOO 2 BAD COMPANY	1 IRIS	1 LIFE OR SOMETHING . . . 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 6:50, 9:00, 11:10	1 MINORITY REPORT
2 SLACKERS	3 MINORITY REPORT 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00, 12:00	2 CLOSED FOR RENOVATION	2 MINORITY REPORT 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00, 12:00	2 BAD COMPANY
3 FOREVERMORE	4 LEGEND OF THE TITANIC 5 JUST VISITING	3 AMELIE	3 JUST VISITING 11:10, 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:10, 11:10 BAD COMPANY 10:50, 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20	3 LIFE OR SOMETHING . . . 4 SCOOBY DOO
4 MINORITY REPORT	6 LIFE OR SOMETHING . . . 7 THE SUM OF ALL FEARS	MARTIN NIEVERA BACK ONSTAGE 9:00 PM July 5 & 6	SUM OF ALL FEARS 10:50, 1:20, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:20	5 JUST VISITING

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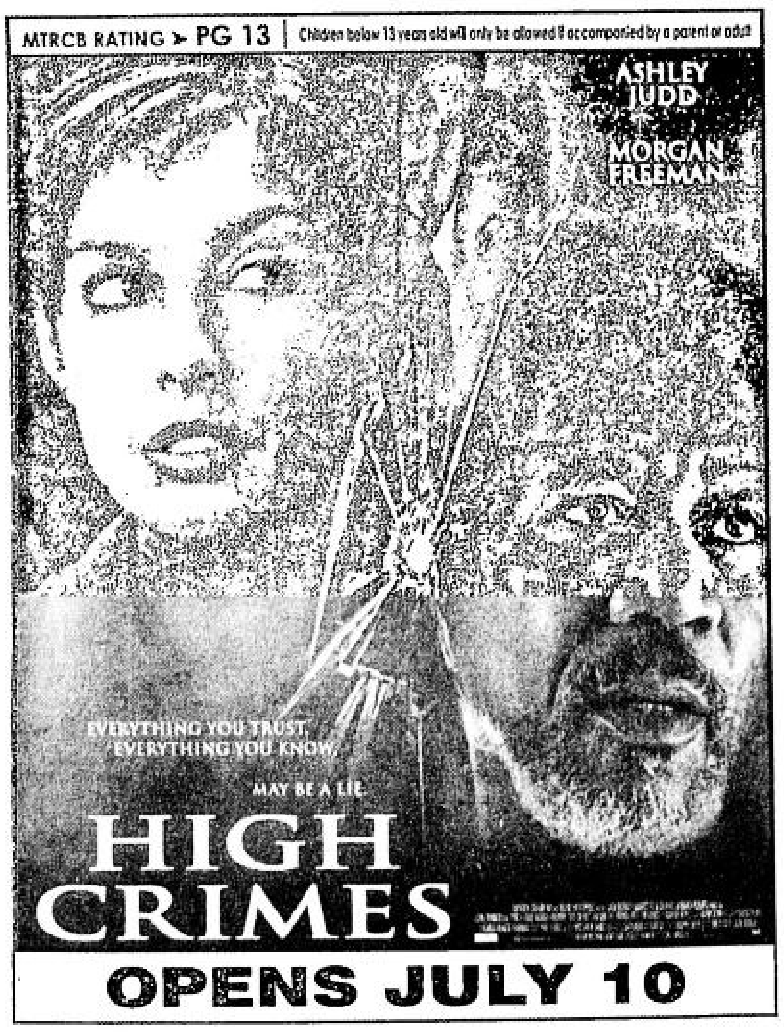
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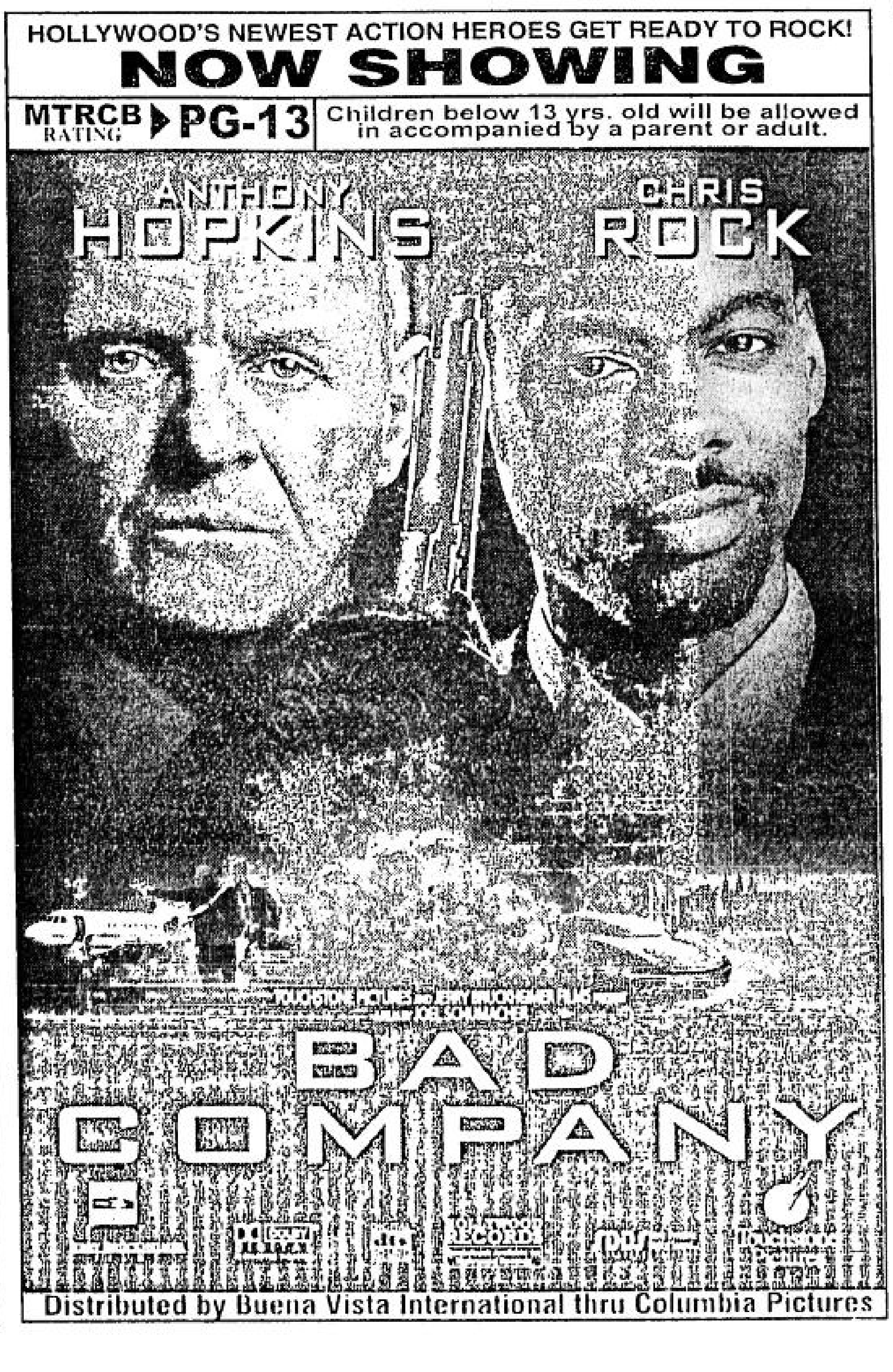

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the biggest gathering of recording artists and movie stars ever assembled for the anti-piracy cause! simultaneous at araneta coliseum quadrangle (near [illegible]), ali mall and farmers plaza atriums

12:00 NN - 2:30 PM

Live! marathon konsiyerto
DZMM
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KLASMEYTS
7:00 - 9:00 PM

Live! marathon konsiyerto continues
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[illegible] • gabriela • gary valenciano • geneva cruz • gino padilla • girlie cruz • gladys n the boxers •
[illegible] • hytes • ina raymundo • [illegible] • itchy worms • j brothers • [illegible] • jerome abalos • jimmy bondoc •
• john estrada • [illegible] • jon santos • [illegible] • joshroenvic • kamikaze • [illegible] • kempee de leon • [illegible] smith
[illegible] • jules • mae [illegible] • marc velasco • mari • [illegible] • michael [illegible]
• michael laygo • monsterbot • [illegible] • nanette inventor • [illegible] • orient pearl • paolo contis • parokya ni edgar • pinky fernandez • pops fernandez •
• porkchop • priscilla almeda • [illegible] • quwatro • randy santiago • [illegible] • razz amanez • renz verano • retrospect • rey kitay • rica peralejo • richard reynoso •
• rivermaya • rockstar 2 • roderick paulate • ronald navarro • rosselle nava • siakol • side a • the partners • tommy cruz • [illegible] • tootsie guevarra • tribe of levi •
• true faith • vanessa del bianco • vhong navarro • ybeth garcia • ynez veneracion • and many, many more! •

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5	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
6	MINORITY REPORT
7	
8	

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1	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
A	DARK DANGER

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1	BAD COMPANY
2	FOREVERMORE
3	TAMPISAW
4	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO

GOTESCO CINEMA

Gotesco City

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2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
5	JUST VISITING
6	SLACKERS
7 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
8 (SDDS)	BAD COMPANY
9 (DOLBY)	LIFE OR SOMETHING

Gotesco Caloocan

tel 362.3508

2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO

Gotesco Grand Central

(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	FOREVERMORE
2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
3	FOREVERMORE
4 (SDDS)	BAD COMPANY
5	JUST VISITING
6 (DOLBY)	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
7 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
8	SLACKERS
9	TAMPISAW

Gotesco Commonwealth

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1 (DTS)	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	RESERVE
4	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
5 (SDDS)	LIFE OR SOMETHING . .
6	FOREVERMORE
7 (DOLBY)	JUST VISITING
8	BAD COMPANY

Gotesco Ortigas

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1	FOREVERMORE
2	BAD COMPANY
3 (DTS)	LIFE OR SOMETHING .
4	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
5 (SDDS)	MINORITY REPORT

Universal

(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO

Sampaguita

(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO

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Dilson	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
Lords	TAMPISAW
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Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

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2	BAD COMPANY
3	MINORITY REPORT

Prima

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3	

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto

SUPER CINERAMA

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1 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
3	RESERVE
4	FOREVERMORE
5	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .

New Divisoria Mall

DIVISORIA CINEMA

tel 244.4619

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

FRC Cinema

Talaba Bacoor Cavite

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE

Berma

TEL. 8792030 / 8792029

1	TAMPISAW
2	MINORITY REPORT

CitiMall

(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	
2	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall

(Sta. Rosa Laguna)

tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	TAMPISAW
2	FOREVERMORE
3 (DTS)	BAD COMPANY

Cinema 2000 Waltermart

(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	BAD COMPANY
2 (DTS)	FOREVERMORE
3 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
4	LIFE OR SOMETHING .

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall

(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	FOREVERMORE
2 (DOLBY)	BAD COMPANY
3 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
4	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .

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(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	A WALK TO REMEMBER
2	FOREVERMORE
3	MINORITY REPORT
4	

Cinema 2000 MetroTown

(Tarlac) tel(045) 982.1729

1	FOREVERMORE
2	DRAGONFLY
3 (DOLBY)	A WALK TO REMEMBER
4 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT

Lianas Cinema

(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	BAD COMPANY
2	TAMPISAW
3	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
4 (DTS)	RESERVE

Lianas MovieCity

(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
2	FOREVERMORE
3 (DTS)	LIFE OR SOMETHING . .
4	TAMPISAW
5	BAD COMPANY

Olivarez Tri-Cinema

(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	FOREVERMORE
2	TAMPISAW
3	MINORITY REPORT

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1	MINORITY REPORT
2	FOREVERMORE
3	TAMPISAW

Olivarez Tagaytay

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1	
2	
3	

Morales Cinema

(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	
2	
3	

Cabuyao

(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	TAMPISAW
2 (DTS)	FOREVERMORE

Fourstep

(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	

Emperor

(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	SELDA
2	FOREVERMORE
3	SCOOBY DOO

Fiesta World Mall

(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	MURDER BY NUMBERS
3	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
4	FOREVERMORE

Jade Cinema

(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	BAD COMPANY
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
4	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS

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SM CITY BACOOR

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1	SLACKERS
2	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
3	MINORITY REPORT
4	JUST VISITING
5	BAD COMPANY
6	FOREVERMORE
7	KATAWAN MO . . .
8	SUM OF ALL FEARS

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1	FOREVERMORE
2	JUST VISITING
3	BAD COMPANY
4	LEGEND OF TITANIC
5	MINORITY REPORT
6	KATAWAN MO . . .
7	SUM OF ALL FEARS
8	SCOOBY DOO
9	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
10	SLACKERS

SM CITY FAIRVIEW

9350749

1	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
2	JUST VISITING
3	MAGKAPATID
4	BAD COMPANY
5	SCOOBY DOO
6	FOREVERMORE
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
9	A WALK TO REMEMBER
10	TAMPISAW
11	SLACKERS
12	KATAWAN MO . . .

SM CITY MANILA

5239240

1	JUST VISITING
2	MINORITY REPORT
3	SUM OF ALL FEARS
4	BAD COMPANY
5	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
6	MINORITY REPORT
7	SLACKERS
8	KATAWAN MO . . .
9	FOREVERMORE
10	LEGEND OF TITANIC
11	A WALK TO REMEMBER
12	SCOOBY DOO

SM MEGAMALL

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1	MINORITY REPORT
2	JUSTY VISITING
3	MINORITY REPORT
4	SUM OF ALL FEARS
5	SCOOBY DOO
6	SLACKERS
7	LEGEND OF TITANIC
8	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
9	FOREVERMORE
10	BAD COMPANY
11	KATAWAN MO . . .
12	A WALK TO REMEMBER

SM CITY NORTH EDSA

9295452

1	JUST VISITING
2	SUM OF ALL FEARS
3	KATAWAN MO . . .
4	FOREVERMORE
5	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
6	SCOOBY DOO
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	BAD COMPANY
9	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
10	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
11	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
12	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM SOUTHMALL

8060898

1	LEGEND OF TITANIC
2	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
3	BAD COMPANY
4	JUST VISITING
5	SLACKERS
6	SUM OF ALL FEARS
7	FOREVERMORE
8	MINORITY REPORT
9	SCOOBY DOO
10	KATAWAN MO . . .

SM CITY CEBU

2313876

1	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
2	BAD COMPANY
3	MURDER BY NUMBERS
4	I AM SAM
5	DISKARTE
6	RESIDENT EVIL
7	FOREVERMORE
8	MINORITY REPORT

SM CITY ILOILO

3209422

1	MURDER BY NUMBERS
2	CLOSED
3	CROSSROADS
4	FOREVERMORE
5	DISKARTE
6	MINORITY REPORT
7	CLOSED
8	RESIDENT EVIL

SM CITY PAMPANGA

7128015

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	MURDER BY NUMBERS
3	BAD COMPANY
4	A WALK TO REMEMBER
5	MONSTER'S BALL
6	FOREVERMORE

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT

8294975

1	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
2	MINORITY REPORT
3	FOREVERMORE
4	BAD COMPANY

SM CINEMA GUADALUPE

8820904

1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN

2514302

1	BAD COMPANY
2	JUST VISITING
3	KATAWAN MO . . .
4	FOREVERMORE

SM CITY DAVAO

2976998

1	MURDER BY NUMBERS
2	DISKARTE
3	MINORITY REPORT
4	FOREVERMORE
5	40 DAYS & 40 NIGHTS
6	RESIDENT EVIL

SM BICUTAN

1
2
3
4

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SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO

1
2
3
4

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2	BAD COMPANY

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2	MINORITY REPORT
3	JUST VISITING
4	LIFE OR SOMETHING LIKE IT
5	BAD COMPANY
6	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
7	FOREVERMORE
8	SLACKERS
9	TITANIC
10	SCOOBY DOO

Ermita 536 -7809- 12

1	BAD COMPANY
2	TITANIC
3	SLACKERS
4	LIFE OR SOMETHING LIKE IT
5	FOREVERMORE
6	JUST VISITING
7	MINORITY REPORT

Metro East - Marcos Hway 682- 8193 / 8280

1	SLACKERS
2	BAD COMPANY
3	JUST VISITING
4	FOREVERMORE
5	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
6	LIFE OR SOMETHING LIKE IT
7	MINORITY REPORT
8	SCOOBY DOO

Novaliches 935- 3229 - 30

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	BAD COMPANY
3	LIFE OR SOMETHING LIKE IT
4	SCOOBY DOO
5	FOREVERMORE
6	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
7	JUST VISITING
8	SLACKERS

Imus 471- 8188 / 875- 3838

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	KATAWAN MO . . .
3	JUST VISITING
4	BAD COMPANY
5	FOREVERMORE
6	LIFE OR SOMETHING LIKE IT

Bacolod 441- 0453 / 0459

1	MINORITY REPORT
2	IN THE BEDROOM
3	FOREVERMORE
4	MONSTER'S BALL
5	I THINK I'M IN LOVE
6	MAMASAN

Iloilo 336- 8077 - 78

1	RESIDENT EVIL
2	DISKARTE
3	MURDER BY NUMBERS
4	MINORITY REPORT
5	CROSSROADS
6	FOREVERMORE

Star Mills- San Fernando, Pamp. 875 1927 961 5318 / 5270

1	BAD COMPANY
2	A WALK TO REMEMBER
3	MURDER BY NUMBERS
4	FOREVERMORE
5	MINORITY REPORT
6	MINORITY REPORT

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Binay reelected Boy Scout president

"THANK you for your continuing thrust," said Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay after his reelection as national president of the 1.9-million strong Boy Scouts of the Philippines during the executive board meeting last Saturday at the BSP headquarters.

Binay said he would continue to find solutions to the membership problem besetting the movement. He assured the board that he would work "double hard to give BSP a much-needed boost to regain its status as the third largest youth organization in the world."

Binay is serving his seventh term as BSP's national president. He was first elected its president while he was mayor of Makati in 1994 and was reelected in 1998.

The chief scout is President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Under the law, the president of the Philippines automatically becomes the chief scout upon assumption of office.

Also reelected were Rep. Francisco B. Aniag Jr., senior vice president; Rep. Del R. de Guzman, vice president for Luzon; Dr. Pedro D. Destura, vice president for Visayas; Jaime P. Semaña, vice president for Mindanao; Enrique B. Lagdameo, treasurer; Vice Gov. J. Miguel C. de Jesus, chief national commissioner; and Romeo M. Brown Sr., international commissioner.

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101	
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	FOREVERMORE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	SUM OF ALL FEARS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	MINORITY REPORT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	BAD COMPANY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	JUST VISITING
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	SLACKERS
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	MINORITY REPORT
FIESTA CARNIVAL	
NEW FRONTIER	
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	MASARAP ANG BAWAL / SALSA
ODEON	MINORITY REPORT
ODEON-2	DISKARTE
ROBEN	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TANDEM-1	MAMASAN
TANDEM-2	MONSTER'S BALL
TIMES	COLLATERAL DAMAGE / MIMIC-2
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
REMAR	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
REMAR-2	TAMPISAW
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	FOREVERMORE
B	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-2	BAD COMPANY
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	DISKARTE
CINEMA-2	TAMPISAW
CINEMA-3	FOREVERMORE
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	SCOOBY DOO
CINEMA-6	SLACKERS
CINEMA-7	THE SUM OF ALL FEARS
CINEMA-8	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	MINORITY REPORT
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	LIFE OR SOMETHING . . .
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	JUST VISITING
CINEMA-12	BAD COMPANY
CINEMA-14	LEGEND OF THE TITANIC
CINEMA-15	FOREVERMORE
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	JUST VISITING
CINEMA-2	LIFE OR SOMETHING LIKE IT
CINEMA-3	SUM OF ALL FEARS
CINEMA-4	BAD COMPANY
CINEMA-5	SCOOBY DOO
CINEMA-6	MINORITY REPORT
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
CINEMA-2	THE OTHER SIDE OF LOVE
CINEMA-4	ALAMID

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P 13
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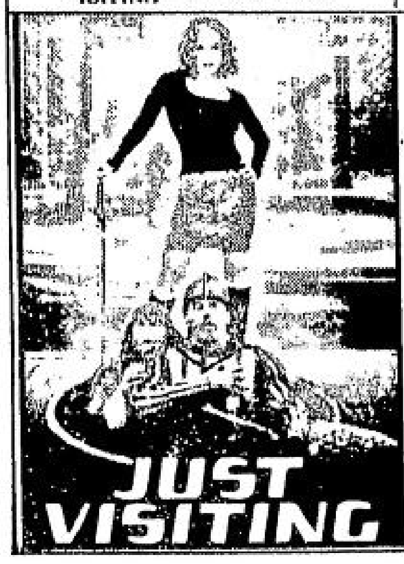

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JUST VISITING

Fun and fantasy for the whole family!

'Just Visiting' NOW SHOWING

When a wizard uses a flawed time-travel potion and bungles his magic spell, a noble knight, Count Thibault, and his clumsy servant, Andre, find themselves transported from 12th century medieval France to 21st century modern-day Chicago!

Confused, lost and overwhelmed, the pair meets hilarious misadventures with automobiles, electricity and indoor plumbing. They enlist the help of Thibault's descendant Julia Malfete as they find their way back to their own time, armed with the timeless values of honor and courage.

Based on a phenomenal box office hit in France, JUST VISITING is a heartwarming comedy adventure for the entire family. Loaded with special effects and laugh-out-loud comic moments, JUST VISITING is a movie-going treat for all ages.

JUST VISITING stars Jean Reno, Christina Applegate and Christian Clavier, and is directed by Jean-Marie Gaubert from a screenplay by Clavier & Jean-Marie Poire & John Hughes.

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Miles Anderson, Romane Bohringer, David Bradley & Jennifer Jason Leigh
Eleven bus passengers take shelter from the elements in an abandoned desert town. As rescue grows more remote by the day an idea emerges: why not stage a play? However, the choice of King Lear plunges this disparate group of travelers into turmoil as they struggle to overcome nature's wrath and their own mortality.
Best Actress (Leigh), 2000 Tokyo International Film Festival
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R)
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Storytelling, July 17-23

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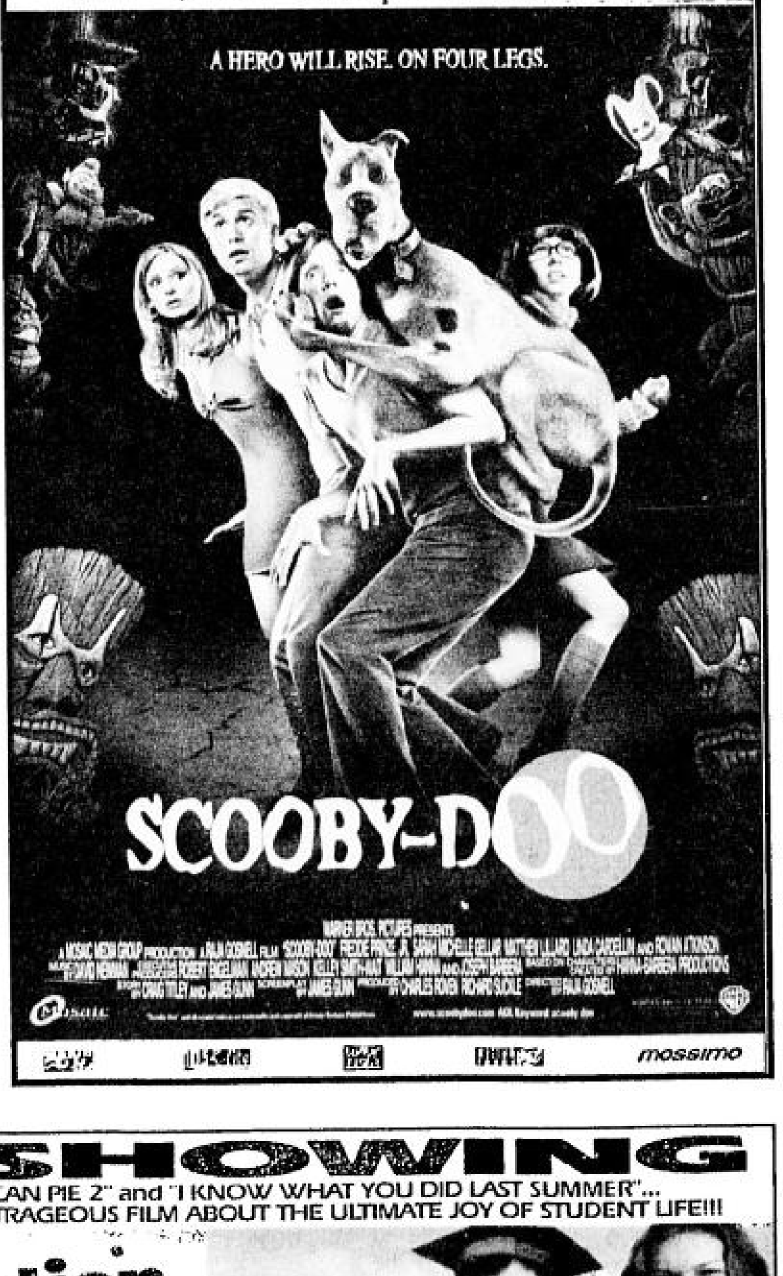

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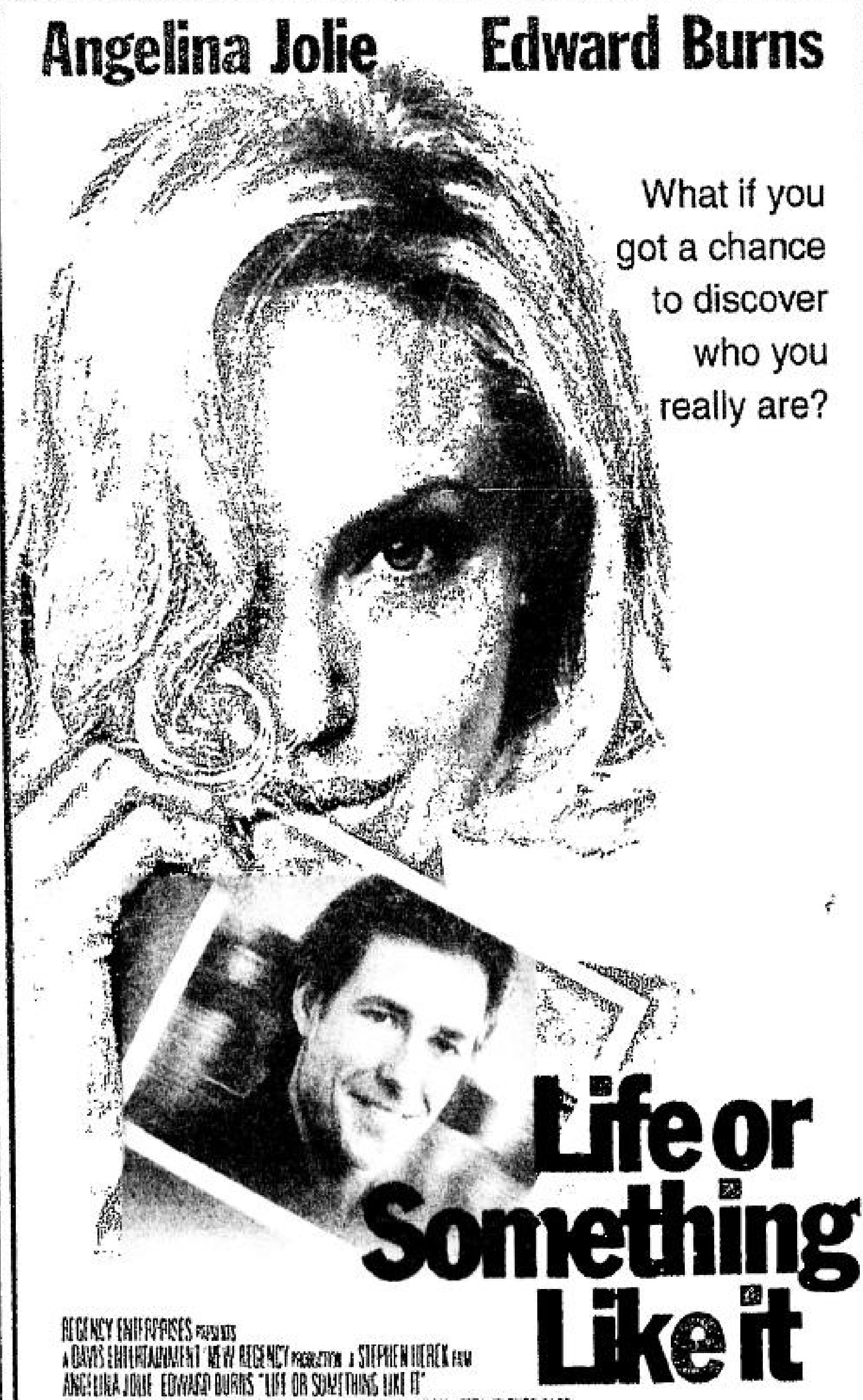
Angelina Jolie Edward Burns



What if you got a chance to discover who you really are?
Life or Something Like it
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STEPHEN HEREK
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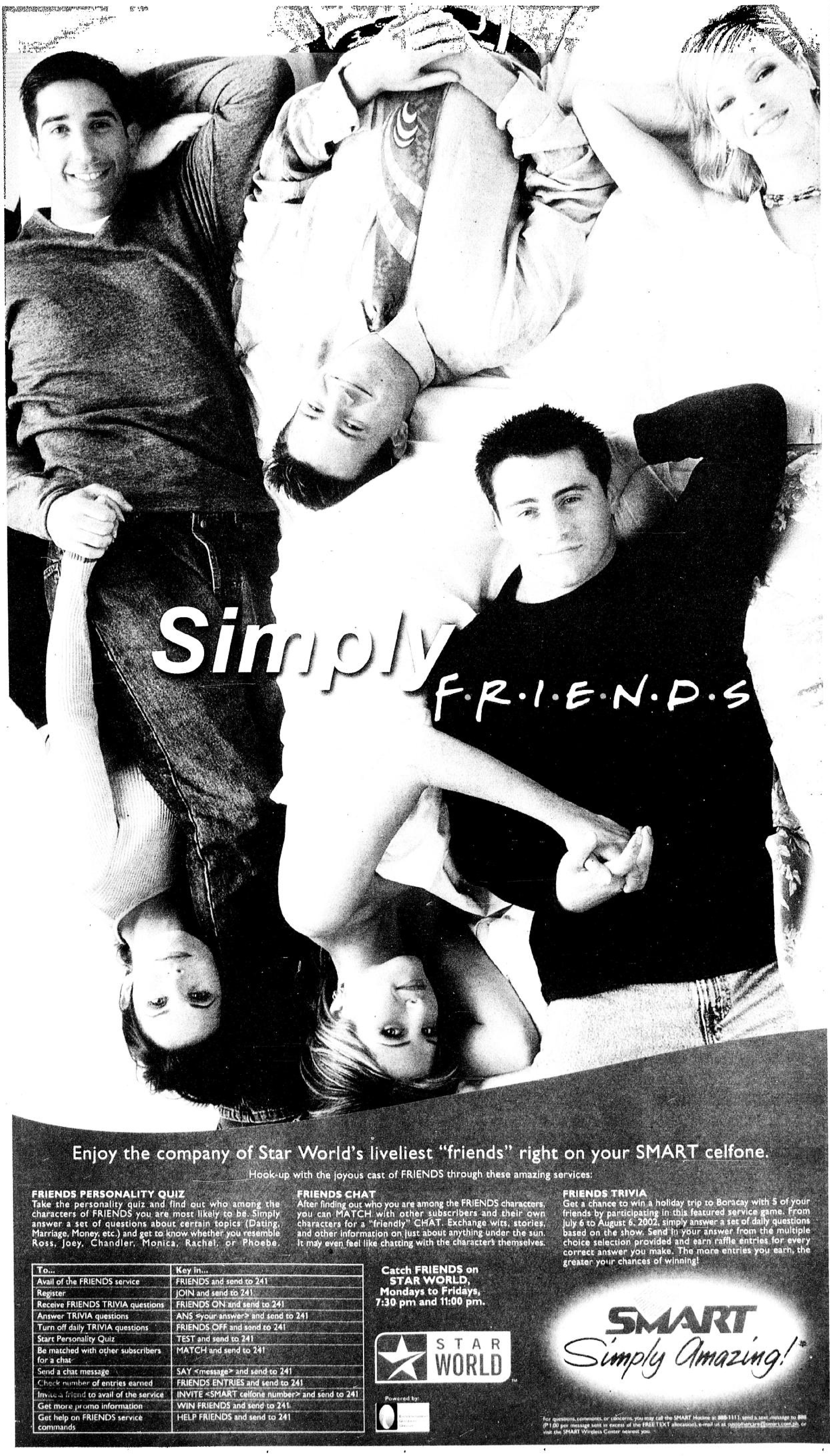

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Start Personality Quiz	TEST and send to 241
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Send a chat message	SAY <message> and send to 241
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BUSINESS
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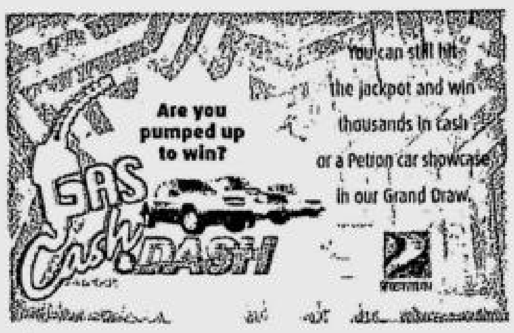
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June inflation eases to 28-month low

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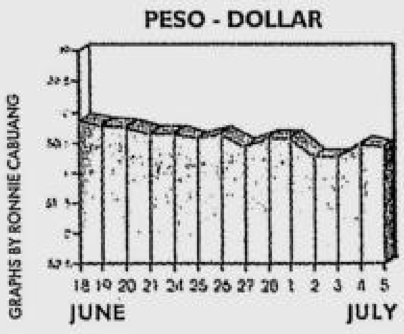


GRAPHS BY RONNIE CABUANG

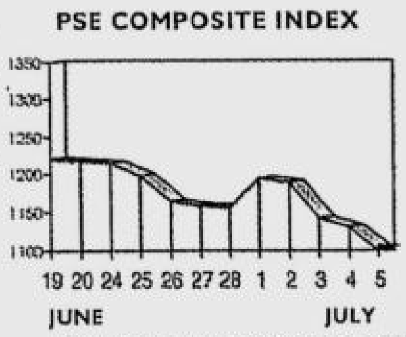
PESO-DOLLAR RATE

₱ 50.595 = $1
As of 5 p.m., July 5, 2002

¥ 120.56 = $1
As of 5 p.m., July 5, 2002

GOLD: $310.90/311.40
per ounce Hong Kong, July 5, 2002

Shares drop on heavy selling



(See stock market report on Page B2)

SHARES closed sharply lower yesterday, with the main index setting a new seven-month closing low, dragged down by heavy selling in blue-chip PLDT, traders said.

The 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index ended down 16.88 points, or 1.5 percent, at 1,119.72, its lowest finish since Dec. 4, when it closed at 1,096.55. The index has lost nearly 6.3 percent since Tuesday.

PLDT, the most actively traded stock, set a new record closing low of P307.50, down P32.50, or 9.6 percent. The sell-off was sparked by a suit filed earlier this week by the company's management against its parent, Hong Kong's First Pacific, before a US district court for alleged violation of disclosure rules. *AP*

By Doris C. Dumlao

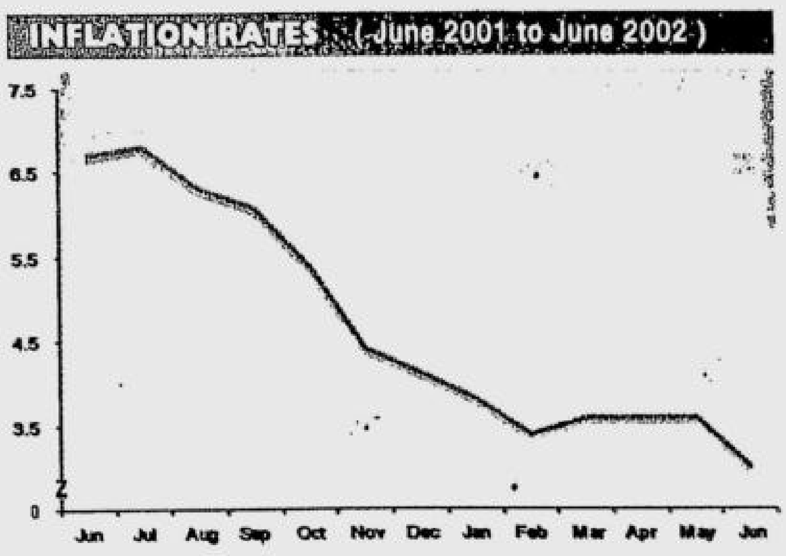
LOWER electricity billings arising from the reduction in the purchased power adjustment (PPA) of Napocor coupled with stable food prices drove down the Philippine annual inflation rate to a 28-month low of 3 percent in June from 3.6 percent in May.

Analysts said the surprising drop in the June inflation rate, which stood much lower than the Bangko Sentral's own projection of 3.4-3.7 percent for the month, should temper pressures on interest rates arising from the government's ballooning budget deficit.

This brought the country's average inflation in the first semester to 3.5 percent, which analysts said might prompt the government to further scale down its revised inflation target range of 4.5-5.5 percent for the full year.

In June last year, the national inflation rate stood at 6.7 percent.

The slowdown in consumer prices last month was most evident in Metro Manila, which has the biggest concentration of residential and commercial users of electricity, as the index sharply fell to 3.7 percent from 5.1 percent.



The National Statistics Office attributed the drastic decline in urban inflation to the 19.7-percentage point drop in the index for fuel, light and water. This developed as Malacañang earlier ordered Napocor to slash its PPA charge by 80 centavos per kilowatt-hour, resulting in a 9.5-percent decline in electricity prices in June relative to May.

The reduced PPA charge, for instance, translated to a P1.26/kWh reduction in the June billings to residential users by largest electricity distributor Manila Electric Co.

Lower rates of food, beverage and tobacco, housing and repairs and miscellaneous items likewise contributed to the softer consumer price index for June.

The inflation rate in the provinces likewise decelerated to 2.5 percent from 3 percent in May due to the decline in the index for all major commodity groups except for fuel, light and water.

For the whole country, the inflation rate for food alone declined to 1.6 percent in June from 2.2 percent in May due to slower rates of increase in the prices of corn, cereal preparations, dairy products, eggs, fish and miscellaneous foods. Prices of fruits and vegetables even recorded a contraction while the prices of meat stood stable.

In a statement, Economic Planning Secretary Dante Canlas said the inflation rate was expected to remain tame in the coming months, noting that pressures on world oil prices have eased as countries like Russia and Norway did not go along with the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec)'s bid to cut oil exports.

The average price of Dubai crude oil in June stood at $23.91 a barrel, 6.8 percent lower from a year-ago figure.

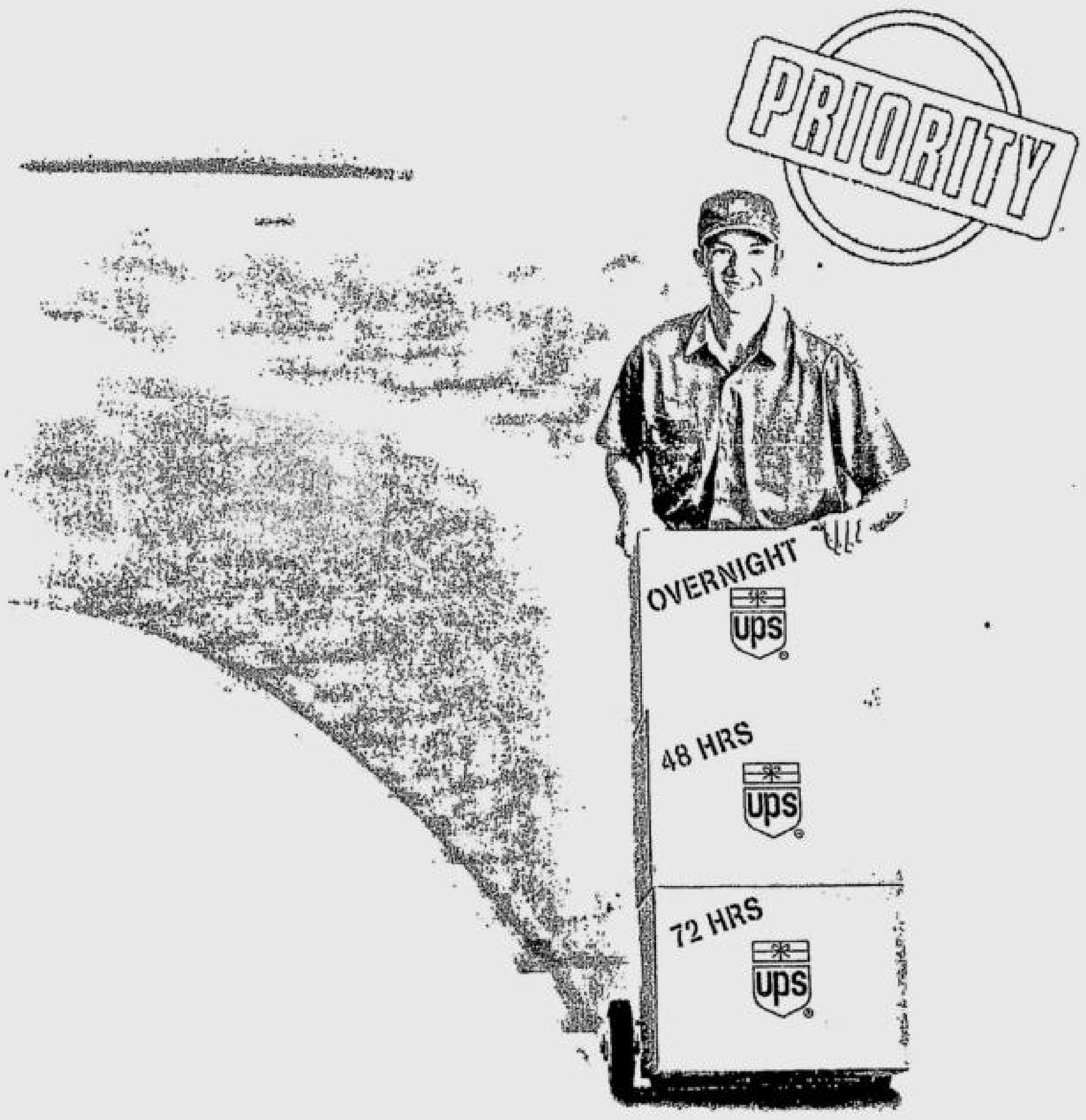
Canlas also said the rebound in exports would strengthen the peso in the coming months, thus increasing the purchasing power of domestic consumers.

He likewise assured that adequate inventory levels from importation would also continue to stabilize the supply of rice, the country's main staple, despite threats of weather disturbances.

"The impact of the mild El Niño is expected to be felt in the fourth quarter of 2002 and may be mitigated by the timely importation of rice," Canlas said.

He said the continuing trade and tariff reforms dampened the cost of imported inputs, thereby reducing production costs for the benefit of the consumers.

JUNE/ B2



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Petrocorp seeks new investor, $100M in additional equity

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

DEBT-SADDLED Petrochemical Corp. of Asia-Pacific (Petrocorp) needs $100 million in fresh equity infusion to sustain its operations and pay off its maturing bank loans.

Petrocorp CEO Henry Leung said the company had been negotiating with several potential white knights from Europe and Taiwan over the past few months but these talks remained fruitless so far.

Leung said Petrocorp badly needed the new capital this year in order to continue its operations and avert closure. He said a big chunk of the $100-million infusion would be used to pay off debt while the balance would be used as working capital.

Leung said Petrocorp's shareholders had no other choice but to accede to a dilution of their stakes in the company to keep the plant in operation.

Petrocorp's main shareholders are Chemical Industries of the Philippines' Antonio Garcia and Carlos de Leon (combined 50 percent), PNOC Petrochemical Development Corp. (9 percent), Thai Petrochemical Development Public Co. Ltd. (7 percent), William Gatchalian (7 percent), Germany's Basf (7 percent) and Basic Petroleum (6 percent).

Leung said the company had been remiss in servicing its loans, including the interest charges, and that it was forced to close down its plant in 2000 for several months. The plant was reopened but has been running at below capacity due to hostile market conditions.

He said the company's cumulative losses had reached P4 billion since its plant opened in 1998. He said several factors contributed to Petrocorp's financial troubles beginning with the delay in the opening of its Bataan plant.

Petrocorp had planned to start operations in 1994 but was able to do so only in 1998 and it bore the full impact of the Asian financial crisis. Leung said the company had barely recovered from the financial crisis that its sales were affected by the surge in cheap imported resins and rampant smuggling.

Petrocorp spent $160 million for its plant that has a production capacity of $160 million.

BSP clears deal settling UOB debt row

By Clarissa S. Batino

MONETARY authorities have approved, in principle, a deal that will allow United Overseas Bank Ltd. of Singapore to buy its Filipino partners out of its local unit.

In a news briefing, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura disclosed that the policy-making Monetary Board "approved the 100-percent acquisition by the Singaporean group of UOB Philippines, but this is subject to certain conditions like the infusion of fresh capital."

Buenaventura said UOB Philippines should build up its capital to achieve "a more acceptable capital adequacy ratio."

The central bank requires banks to earmark at least 10 percent of their capital as buffer for potential risks.

A bank's capital adequacy ratio is a measure of the amount of its capital expressed as a percentage of its risk weighted credit exposures. This ratio is used to protect depositors and promote the stability and efficiency of financial systems around the world.

Buenaventura declined to say how much fresh capital UOB Philippines needed.

"The planned buy-out solves the problem of UOB Philippines because now it is owned by one of the largest banks in Singapore. This lessens the systemic risk to the banking sector," he said.

BUENAVENTURA

He added that the acquisition should hasten UOB Philippines' rehabilitation.

UOB Philippines was known as Westmont Bank when UOB, with some funds from the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp., bought a 60-percent stake in 1999.

On Wednesday, UOB announced that it would buy out of UOB Philippines the group of Jollibee Corp. majority owner Tony Tan Caktiong and the family and associates of former Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu for over P1 billion.

The agreement involves the total settlement of all claims, suits and counter-suits involving the ownership of UOB Philippines.

INQUIRER MONITOR

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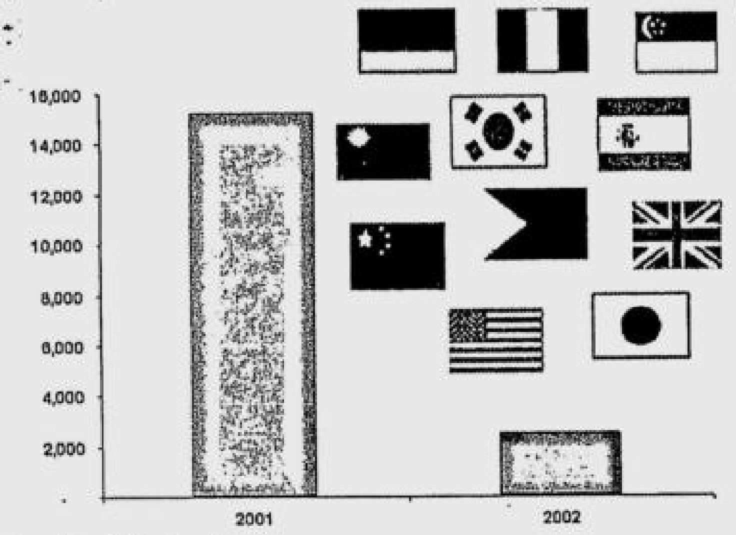
BOI approved equity investments

(January to March 2001 & 2002, in million pesos)



Source: Board of Investments

EQUITY investments in the first quarter of 2002 plunged 84 percent to P 2.5 billion from P15.3 billion in the country during the period last year. Foreign countries with the highest equity investments were France with P717 million followed by Germany and Taiwan with P284 million and P148 million, respectively.

Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

SEC urges PSE to disclose sanctions on erring brokers

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has urged the Philippine Stock Exchange to regularly make public penalties it imposes on brokers and listed companies.

SEC Chair Lilia Bautista told reporters that she suggested this to PSE chair Vivian Yuchengco so that any penalties on erring brokers, for example, would not seem like a big deal anymore.

Yuchengco has requested that the SEC downplay its compromise settlements with PSE brokers in relation to the BW Resources Corp. stock fraud scandal so that the image of the exchange will not be tarnished.

The SEC recently entered into compromise settlements with around 70 brokers in exchange for dropping administrative cases against them.

The corporate watchdog has also begun to go after individual clients who may have benefited from investing in BW shares.

The SEC has collected some P18 million from 70 brokers and 60 of their clients who have been linked to the BW controversy.

The commission expects to settle with 20 more clients.

The local stock market nearly collapsed when the BW stock fraud scandal broke out two years ago.

Several stockbrokerages were accused of conspiring to jack up the share prices of BW, a little-known gaming firm owned by businessman Dante Tan, a close associate of former President Joseph Estrada.

This case was part of the records submitted during Estrada's Senate impeachment trial. The trial was never formally closed, as Estrada was forced to step down in January last year by a civil revolt sparked by the efforts of senators allied with Estrada to suppress key evidence. *Elena R. Torrijos*

Renegotiation of air pact with US sought

HOUSE Assistant Minority Floor Leader Rep. Constantino Jaraula has warned that an "open-skies" policy might create unnecessary security risks to the Philippines.

Jaraula made the statement last Wednesday during the Forum on Tourism at Ateneo-Rockwell, which was organized jointly by the Buy Pinoy Movement and the Ateneo Graduate School of Business.

He was referring to the provisions of the RP-US Air Transport Agreement (ATA) that allows US carriers unlimited flights to unlimited cities in the Philippines and from there to any other country.

The Cagayan de Oro congressman warned that US airlines were targets of terrorist attacks and that Philippine airports, unlike those in the United States, were not equipped with strict and hi-tech security measures to even detect such security threats.

"Allowing more US airline flights in the Philippines is, therefore, like inviting more magnets of terror attacks," he said.

Jaraula said that because of geopolitical considerations, there was no assurance that the United States will always be on the side of the Philippines.

He said it was "sheer folly" for the Philippines to adopt an open-skies policy, considering the security risks.

"You open your skies, you lay bare your entire territory to possible friends or foes. This is not the time to be careless. Above all else, we must consider our national security."

Jaraula said it was to the country's interest that the Philippine government defer the implementation of the RP-US ATA and to push for its renegotiation. He observed that even the United Kingdom, which is the closest ally of the United States in the anti-terror war, is strongly resisting US pressure for open skies. Other countries that do not have open-skies deal with the United States include Japan, China, Spain, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand and Australia.

7 firms face trading freeze

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange yesterday threatened to suspend the trading of the shares of seven listed companies by July 15 for their failure to comply with the exchange's financial reportorial requirements for fiscal year 2001.

These companies are Atlas Consolidated Mining & Development Corp., DMCI Holdings Inc., Fil-Estate Corp., Music Corp., Philippine National Construction Corp., Wellex Industries Inc. and Wise Holdings Inc.

These companies were given up to July 15 to submit their reports.

The PSE requires all listed companies to submit yearly their financial reports, including 200 copies of their annual reports. It slaps a basic penalty of P50,000 and an additional P5,000 in daily fine on those that will fail to comply with this rule.

Atlas Consolidated, now controlled by retailer/miner Alfredo Ramos, operates a copper mine in Cebu and a gold mine in Masbate.

DMCI Holdings, for its part, is in the thick of negotiations with creditors for the restructuring of P2.4 billion worth of convertible preferred shares. Badly hit by the Asian financial crisis that started in 1997, DMCI is trying to sell non-core assets in order to focus on its core construction business, after most of the investments it made after its initial public offering—including real estate and Semirara coal—soured.

A property development company founded by businessman Robert Sobrepeña, Fil-Estate pursues horizontal and high-rise residential and commercial property development as well as development of golf courses and resorts through subsidiaries Fil-Estate Properties Inc. and Fil-Estate Golf and Development Inc. It is currently in talks with state-controlled Bases Conversion Development Authority on the lease contract for the 247-hectare Camp John Hay tourism estate in Baguio City.

Music Corp.'s core subsidiary is facing a petition for involuntary bankruptcy, which was filed by a shareholder with the US courts.

PNCC, a government-owned and controlled corporation, is principally engaged in the infrastructure and construction business.

Wellex, owned by the family of "plastics king" William Gatchalian, is engaged in food processing, packaging, fabrication, manufacturing of appliance parts, waterworks, sewerage, telecommunications, energy and information technology businesses.

Wise Holdings, formerly known as Dharmala Philippines Inc., is into financial services.

DISCLOSURES

METROPOLITAN Bank & Trust Co. reported an unaudited net income of P1.54 billion for the first half of 2002.

* * *

PHILEX Mining Corp. disclosed that its subsidiary **Philex Gold Philippines Inc.** sold 2,398 ounces of gold and 5,737 ounces of silver to **Johnson Matthey** for P38.9 million.

* * *

LA TONDEÑA Distillers Inc. bought 6,600 of its own shares at P32 per share and another 8,500 shares at P32.50 per share.

* * *

THE LISTING of **Globe Telecom Inc.**'s 294 common shares with par value of P50 per share and the corresponding 74 stock dividend shares is set for Tuesday, July 9. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of Friday, July 5, 2002)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	3,000
Banco de Oro Univ. Bank	18	18	17.75	18	218,500
Bank of the Phil. Islands	44	45	43.5	44.5	269,100
Citystate Savings Bank	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	30	30	28	29	222,400
First E-Bank Corp.	1.3	1.32	1.3	1.32	16,000
Global Business Bank Inc.	67.5	67.5	67.5	67.5	100
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	32.5	34	32.5	33.5	362,100
Philippine National Bank	33	33	30.5	30.5	102,400
Security Bank Corp.	14	14	13.75	13.75	2,200
Union Bank of the Phil.	20	20	19.5	19.5	23,000
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Manulife Financial Corp.	1355	1355	1335	1335	520
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1030	1030	1025	1025	280
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.66	0.66	0.6	0.61	4,550,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	530	530	520	520	13,730
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3	3	3	3	1,000
Piltel	0.31	0.31	0.29	0.3	3,410,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	337.5	337.5	307.5	307.5	336,890
Ivantage Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	20,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.014	0.014	0.013	0.014	5,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	20.5	20.5	20.5	20.5	8,100
Manila Electric Co. B	29.5	29.5	27.5	28	815,800
Petron Corp.	1.72	1.74	1.68	1.7	4,379,000
Salcon Power Corp.	1.7	1.78	1.7	1.78	4,594,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	2.4	2.4	2.38	2.4	1,070,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.38	0.39	0.33	0.33	640,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6	2,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	200,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	50,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	20,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13	13	12.75	12.75	511,000
RFM Corp.	1	1.02	1	1	528,000
Swift Food Inc.	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	2,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48	48	47.5	48	67,900
San Miguel Corp. B	54.5	54.5	53.5	53.5	24,000
Universal Robina Corp.	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	46,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	288,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	2.28	2.28	2.26	2.26	5,602,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	5,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.32	0.34	0.3	0.34	6,710,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	80,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.145	0.145	0.14	0.145	390,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.24	1.24	1.24	1.24	7,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	20.25	20.25	19	19	143,000
Ionics Inc.	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1	1,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.5	1.5	1.44	1.5	435,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.7	0.71	0.69	0.7	1,970,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.49	0.49	0.4	0.4	20,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.235	0.26	2,900,000
Music Corp.	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	590,000
Prime Orion Phils. Inc.	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	40,000
Roxas Holdings Inc.	0.73	0.8	0.73	0.79	140,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	1,000,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Euro-Med Lab. Phil. Inc.	4	5	4	5	16,000
LMG Chemicals Corp.	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	37,565,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.31	0.32	0.31	0.32	500,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.46	0.46	0.46	0.46	330,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	24	24	24	24	97,100
DMCI Holdings Inc.- Pref.	775	775	775	775	40
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	635	635	635	635	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series V	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,600
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,400
PLDT (10% Pref) Series X	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa	10	10	10	10	300
Philweb.Com Inc.-Warrants	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	2,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	5.3	5.4	5.2	5.3	4,536,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	20,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.25	1,070,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.205	0.205	0.2	0.2	5,110,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.28	2.28	2.22	2.24	1,381,000
Highlands Prime Leisure	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	115,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.6	5,056,000
MINING					
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18	400,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	80,000
OIL					
Interport Res.	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	1,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.0028	0.0028	0.0026	0.0026	52,000,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	1,221,600	38,835,775.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	87,221,560	266,246,085.00
PRO	17,290,000	56,505,220.00
Mining	480,000	90,600.00
OIL	53,000,000	148,400.00
GRAND TOTALS:	159,213,160	361,826,080.00

	AVERAGES	
Banks & Fin Svc	442.36	DOWN 1.39
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,561.87	DOWN 34.67
PRO	499.52	DOWN 1.07
Mining	1,161.92	UP 7.94
OIL	1.25	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	676.28	DOWN 10.84
Composite	1,119.72	DOWN 16.88

NO. OF ADVANCES: 15; NO. OF DECLINES: 37; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 24; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 76; NO. OF TRADES: 2,040

CURRENCIES

July 5, 2002 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.019472	1.000000	50.6780
Japan	Yen	0.008502	0.008340	0.4227
United Kingdom	Pound	1.557447	1.527700	77.4208
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.130709	0.128212	6.4975
Switzerland	Franc	0.682834	0.669792	33.9437
Canada	Dollar	0.665539	0.652827	33.0840
Singapore	Dollar	0.576625	0.565611	28.6640
Australia	Dollar	0.571133	0.560224	28.3910
Bahrain	Dinar	2.704313	2.652661	134.4316
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.271860	0.266667	13.5142
Brunei	Dollar	0.574998	0.564016	28.5832
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000114	0.000112	0.0057
Thailand	Baht	0.024542	0.024073	1.2200
UAE	Dirham	0.277596	0.272294	13.7993
Korea	Won	0.000854	0.000838	0.0425
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.980900	49.7101
Brazil	Real	0.355341	0.348554	17.6640
Denmark	Kroner	0.134566	0.131996	6.6893
India	Rupee	0.020921	0.020521	1.0400
Malaysia	Ringgit	0.268318	0.263193	13.3381
Mexico	New Peso	0.102433	0.100477	5.0920
New Zealand	Dollar	0.498520	0.488998	24.7814
Norway	Kroner	0.136277	0.133674	6.7743
Pakistan	Rupee	0.017006	0.016681	0.8454
South Africa	Rand	0.100552	0.098631	4.9984
Sweden	Kroner	0.109812	0.107715	5.4588
Syria	Pound	0.019834	0.019455	0.9859
Taiwan	NT Dollar	0.030523	0.029940	1.5173
Venezuela	Bolivar	0.000787	0.000772	0.0391

June inflation . . .

From page B1

"The heightened competition weakens any price-setting power of some large enterprises," Canlas said.

Ed Bancod, head of research at foreign stock brokerage BNP Paribas Peregrine, said the slowdown in inflation should bode well for interest rates.

"Despite the pressures from the government's rising budget deficit, this is one more reason for the BSP not to increase its benchmark rates," Bancod said.

Analysts said the number would help monetary authorities keep interest rates capped at current lows despite pressures from the ballooning budget deficit.

The central bank, after a policy meeting on Thursday, said it was keeping its key overnight borrowing rate at a decade-low of 7 percent because it saw inflation contained in the near-term.

Free trade, WTO on agenda as economic ministers gather

GENTING HIGHLANDS, Malaysia—Southeast Asian trade and economic ministers gathered Friday for a weekend that would blend friendly golf games with discussions about the region's financial future, including a pact with China that would create the world's largest free-trade area.

The meeting, at a hill resort 950 meters above sea level, will focus on boosting economic ties between the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations and its trading partners.

The ministers will also discuss issues related to the World Trade Organization and measures to improve economic integration within Asean and to develop more Southeast Asian conglomerates, Malaysian officials say.

Malaysian Trade Minister Rafidah Aziz said earlier this week that the ministers wanted to debate plans, announced last November, to expand a Southeast Asian free-trade pact to include China.

Asean has agreed to work with China toward creating the free-trade zone within 10 years. It would be the world's largest, with a combined market of 1.7 billion people and gross domestic product of $2 trillion.

But some countries fear the plan would flood them with cheap Chinese goods and make Southeast Asia less attractive to foreign investors. ***AP***

$6-B Asian gas pipeline dream moves a step closer to reality

BALI, Indonesia—Southeast Asian energy ministers have signed an agreement for a sprawling $6-billion gas pipeline linking the region's resources in a bid to alleviate dependence on imported oil and buffer against possible threats to supply.

The signing of a memorandum of understanding for the Trans-Asean gas pipeline came six years after it was first proposed, when many critics said it was more of a politically led drive than a sound economic and commercial plan.

"It is pleasing to see good progress being made on the Trans-Asean pipeline project," Indonesian Energy Minister Purnomo Yusgiantoro told the opening of the 20th meeting of Asean Ministers of Energy on the resort island of Bali.

The pipeline, which will link supply to demand centers in Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand, has already begun to take shape with single pipelines emerging.

"Indonesia has already developed the southern pipelines. It supplies gas from West Natuna to Singapore and Malaysia, and that will be opened next month," Purnomo said.

"The construction of pipelines from South Sumatra to Singapore is now being started to be planned and will be finalized next year," he added.

He said plans were also being studied to connect a pipeline network to supply gas from Indonesia to Thailand.

Indonesia, with uncommitted gas reserves of more than 300 trillion cubic feet (tcf), will play a pivotal role in supplying the regional gas grid.

Purnomo said about half those reserves would feed the network.

The pipeline was first proposed as a $15-billion project but had since been downsized and the proposed investment slashed by more than half.

The Asean meeting comes ahead of the third annual Indonesian International Oil, Gas and Energy Conference and Exhibition, which begins on Saturday and will look at strategies for meeting Asia's energy demands and regional gas infrastructure development.

Opening the meeting, President Megawati Sukarnoputri said it was crucial for regional cooperation to be developed further, not just in oil and gas but electricity power and alternative energies.

"We have come to the realization of how the energy question has shifted from simply a national issue to regional and even an international topic," she said.

Indonesia is Asia's only Opec member. ***Reuters***

IMF seen seeking FX coordination

LONDON—International Monetary Fund managing director Horst Koehler has said the IMF may seek international coordination of exchange rates if nervousness in currency markets leads to a run on the dollar, the Financial Times reported Friday.

In an interview with the British newspaper, Koehler said he was cautious about advocating intervention, but "no intervention at all is not the right answer" if the dollar were to fall rapidly and in a disorderly fashion.

The dollar has fallen by 12 percent against the euro since January, almost reaching parity last week before rising slightly Thursday.

But risks to the US currency continued as markets remained nervous about the state of the American economy, the FT said.

Koehler welcomed the dollar's fall and the rise of the euro, saying the greenback had been overvalued.

He doubted the dollar would go into a free-fall because Europe was not yet an alternative to the United States as a source of growth and demand for capital. ***AFP***

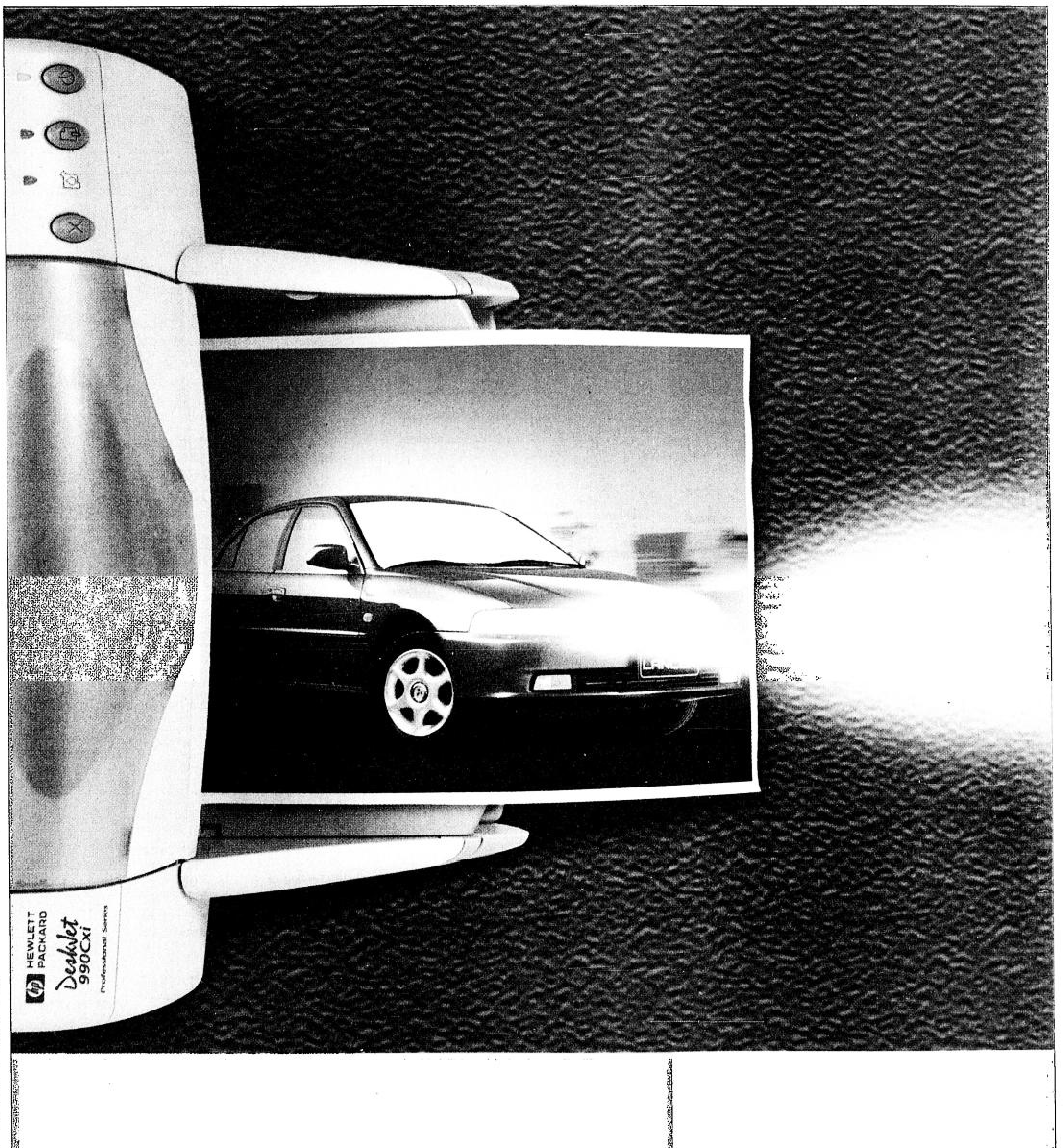
China eases restriction on traders

HONG KONG—China has further eased restrictions by allowing Hong Kong residents to start businesses in Shanghai and Guangzhou as part of a move to help the territory out of its current economic slump, it was reported Friday.

The foreign trade and economic cooperation ministry in Beijing gave the nod last month for Hong Kong permanent residents to do business as sole proprietors in places like Pudong and Lujiazui in Shanghai and Tianhe in Guangzhou, the Chinese-language Ming Pao said.

The paper said the central government eased the restriction in consideration of Hong Kong's current economic difficulties.

The move came after Hong Kong permanent residents were recently allowed, for the first time, to set up retail businesses in Lowu in Shenzhen at the boundary with the former British colony. ***AFP***



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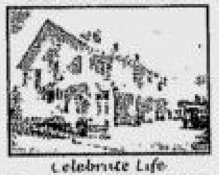

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Cel: 0919-4241156
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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the heirs of the late VIVENCIO T. VIVAS executed an extrajudicial settlement of Lot 2-P-2 under TCT No. 29584, Batangas, per Doc. No. 102; Page No. 21; Book No. XIX, Series of 2002 of Notary Public Emiliano N. Belmi, of Calatagan, Batangas.
(PDI-June 22, 29 & July 6, 2002)

NOTICE is hereby given that the estates of the late LILIA ABUNDO PRUDENTE was extrajudicially settled with waiver and donation among their heirs as per Doc. No. 452; Page No. 91; Book No. 58; Series of 2002 under Notary Public Atty. Jewel D Bulos.
(PDI-July 6, 13, & 20, 2002)

ERRATUM

In the advertisement of NPC-TransCo which came out July 5, 2002. "Invitation to Apply for Eligibily" should have been "Invitation to Apply for Eligibility."

Medialine

NATIONAL HISTORICAL INSTITUTE

NHI Bldg., T.M. Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila
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BULLETIN OF VACANT POSITIONS

(In compliance with RA 7041)

SUPPLY OFFICER III, SG-18, Item No. SUO3-1-1998. Bachelor's degree: two (2) years of relevant experience, eight (8) hours of relevant training, Eligibility: CS professional/Second Level eligibility

SENIOR HISTORY RESEARCHER, SG-18, Item No. SRHR-1 & 4-1998 Completion of academic requirements for a Master's degree relevant to the job, preferably major in History, Social Sciences or Museology; two (2) years relevant experience, 8 hours of relevant training; CS Professional/appropriate eligibility for 2nd level position.

HISTORY RESEARCHER II, SG-14, Item No. HTRYR2-12 & 18-1998 Bachelor's degree relevant to the job, preferably A.B. History, BSE/Ed major in History, Mass Communications/Journalism, B.S. Architecture/Civil Eng'g. one (1) year relevant experience, 4 hours relevant training, CS Professional/2nd level eligibility

CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE FOREMAN, SG-08, Item No. CMF-1-1998 High School graduate, one (1) year of relevant experience; four (4) hours of relevant training, Eligibility: MC 11, S. 96 - Cat. III

DRAFTSMAN II, SG-06, Item No. DFM2-2-1998 Completion of two years studies in college or High School graduate with relevant vocational/trade course, one year of relevant experience, four hours of relevant training; Career Service (Subprofessional)/Draftsman or Illustrator (MC 11, s. 96 - Cat. I)/First level eligibility

SHRINE GUIDE, SG-6, Item Nos. SHRG-1 & 2-1998. (For provincial & MM assignment) Completion of two years studies in college (preferably with units in history/social sciences/communication arts), CS Subprofessional/1st level eligibility.

SECURITY GUARD I, SG-3, Item No. SECG1-7-1998 For assignment in Dapitan City. Completion of secondary school course with relevant training Security Guard license (CSC MC 11 s 1996, Cat. II)

UTILITY WORKER I, SG-1, Item Nos. UTW1-6, 13, 18, 19-1998 For provincial (Nagcarlan, Laguna/Castillejos, Zambales/Binakayan, Cavite) and MM assignment. Must be able to read and write

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and look for **Ms. Eunice S. Yap**

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INVITATION TO SUBMIT BID PROPOSAL IT RESOURCES

June 13, 2002

The National Library is accepting bid proposals of hardware requirements listed below for further expansion of its Local Area Network. Interested parties may obtain the Pre-qualification Statement Forms (PSF) and Instruction to Bidders from the Property Section, The National Library.

Desktop Computers
Notebook Computer
Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS)
Printers

The National Library reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality therein, and to accept only such bids as are advantageous to the Agency.

(Sgd.) **PRUDENCIANA C. CRUZ**
DIRECTOR

(PDI--June 29 & July 6, 2002)

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INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND BID

The Science Education Institute, Department of Science and Technology (SEI-DOST) through its Bids and Awards Committee reiterates its invitation to interested parties to pre-qualify and submit sealed bids for the *fabrication* of:

1 unit MOBILE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CLASSROOM (MITC)

Related bidding activities are as follows:

1.	Issuance of pre-qualification forms	11 July 2002
1.	Submission of Pre-qualification Requirements	17 July 2002
2.	Issuance of Notice to Pre-qualified Suppliers	18 July 2002

The bidding documents may be obtained from Ms. Edel Bustamante at Room 312, 3/F PTRI Bldg., Gen. Santos Ave., Bicutan, Tagig, MM during office hours.

A pre-bid conference shall be held on **19 July 2002**, 10:00 AM at the SEI Conference Room, 3/F PTRI Bldg., Gen. Santos Avenue, Bicutan, Tagig, MM.

Sealed bid proposals shall be received until 10AM of **26 July 2002** at the SEI Conference Room, 3/F PTRI Bldg., Gen. Santos Ave., Bicutan, Tagig, MM by the SEI-BAC after which the bid proposals shall be publicly opened in the presence of attending bidders.

SEI-DOST reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in the bids received and to accept such bids as may be considered most responsive and advantageous to the government.

SEI-DOST neither assumes any obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of the bids nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **ESTER B. OGENA**
Director

(PDI--July 6, 7 & 8, 2002)

PETRON

RETAIL SPACES AVAILABLE FOR LEASE AT THE FOLLOWING SERVICE STATIONS

	Locations	Area +/- (sq.m.)	Remarks
1.	Aguinaldo Highway cor. Niog Bacoor, Cavite	195.0	With structure; maybe shared
2.	Binan-Carmona Rd., Tubigan Binan, Laguna	84.0	With structure; maybe shared
3.	Dona Soledad, Better Living Paranaque	64.0	With structure; maybe shared
4.	Aguinaldo Highway, Mahabang Kahoy, Tagaytay City	195.0	Vacant lot: maybe shared
5.	Roosevelt Ave. cor. Del Monte	80.25	Vacant lot
6.	Calumpang, Binangonan, Rizal	234.0	Vacant lot
7.	Ortigas Ext., Taytay, Rizal	67-180	3 Vacant lots
8.	Laguna Bel-Air, Sta. Rosa	300.0	Vacant lot
9.	M. Concepcion, San Joaquin, Pasig City	300.0	Vacant lot
10	National Hi-way, Carmen, Pang.	316.8	2 X 2 flr. Units*
11	Mataas Na Lupa, Lipa City Batangas City (front of La Salle)	80.0 & 200.0	2 Vacant lots
12	Gov. Cuenca Ave., Nasipit Talamban, Cebu City	240.0	Vacant lot; w/drive-thru
13	J.P.Laurel, Bajada, Davao City	550.0	Vacant lot
14	Marcos Hi-way, De la Paz, Pasig City (Cubao-boound)	186-233	2 Vacant lots

*Comm'l bldg. not in service station.

For interested parties, kindly furnish the following:

a. Company profile
b. List of existing outlets

Please submit the above requirements with a covering letter of intent to:

PETRON CORPORATION
c/o Willie N. Romero
31/F Petron Mega Plaza
Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City 1200
Tel. Nos. 886-3250 or 886-3888 loc. 3157

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

2228 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City
Telefax 813-4692; Website: www.pdic.gov.ph; Email: info@pdic.gov.ph

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) invites all authorized manufacturers, distributors, dealers and suppliers to be eligible to bid for the supply, delivery and installation of any or all of the following IT hardware and software:

QTY	HARDWARE	APPROVED BUDGET
75	Branded desktop computers	6,300,000
35	Branded notebook computers	4,200,000
15	Network switches	2,070,000
55	Uninterrupted power supply	2,310,000
6	Portable laser printers	144,000
10	High speed printers	3,600,000
2	Network laser printers	163,200
	SOFTWARE	
1	Crystal Reports with 5 users	142,220

The Request for Proposal shall be made available to interested bidders starting **July 15-19, 2002**, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the 3rd Floor, Information Technology Department, 2228 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City from Ms. Jackie Jose or Ms. Maricel Flores. The prebid conference shall be held at the PDIC Building, 2228 Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City on **July 22, 2002** at 2:00 p.m. to clarify/explain any provision stipulated in the Request for Proposal.

Criteria for eligibility check, examination and evaluation of bids and postqualification shall be on non-discretionary pass/fail basis. Only eligible bidders shall be considered for bid awards.

PDIC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part thereof, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Government.

PDIC shall in no case be held responsible or liable for any and all costs associated with the bidder's participation in the bidding process regardless of its results.

(Sgd.) **CATHERINE F. BAMBA**
Chairman

(PDI - July 6 & 13, 2002)

誠徵供應廠商／入口商

WANTED SUPPLIERS

A well established, financially sound, fast growing **Department Store & Supermarket Chain** **WANTS TO BUY** locally manufactured & imported products for Food and Non Food Section of our Supermarkets, Household, Housewares, Small Appliance, Men's, Ladies', Children's, and Infants' RTW and Accessories, Footwear, Novelty, Gifts, Home Decor, Cosmetics, Sch & Ofc. Supplies, Toys, Artificial Flowers, Bags & Luggage, Pet Supply, Furniture, Hardware, Electrical & Plumbing Supplies, and other items for complete dept. store line.

We also BUY export over runs, import stock lot, closed out items and over production.

Suppliers please bring your samples to:
136 Roosevelt Ave., SFDM, Quezon City
Mon., Tue. & Wed. 8:30AM to 4:30PM
Tel: 371-1882, 371-5130/31, 373-6669,
373-6665/66, 411-1468 to 70 Fax: 373-6671

This is to notify the public that **NEPCO PERSONNEL, INC.** has a pending application for Licensing with the POEA with the following incorporators and officers: **Engr. Rogelio B. Mantos - President, Dr. Jose O. Pinunggan - Vice President, Dr. Preciosa P. Pinunggan - Auditor, Annabelle L. Mantos - Secretary, and Ainee M. Rim - Treasurer.**

Interested in Nursing in Australia

Requirements listed below must have been received in the last 18 months

1. International English Language Testing System *Academic* (IELTS) overall band of 7 or OET.
2. Nurses Board of Victoria approval letter to attend a pre-registration course.

Assistance to attend Pre-Registration courses for Registered Nurses September 2002 and January 2003 followed by sponsorship to work. Includes airfare assistance.

Send CV including full contact details to:

Email: twinhills@twinhills.com.au
Fax: 61 3 9499 1444

PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City

is now accepting applications for

Academic Year 2003

FELLOWSHIP
(with specific requirements)

I. **Adult Cardiology**
  - 3 years Residency in Internal Medicine accredited by PCP
  - PCP Diplomate

II. **Pediatric Cardiology**
  - 3 years Residency in General Pediatric accredited by PPS
  - At least passed written examination for Diplomate in Pediatrics by the PPS

III. **Thoracic And Cardiovascular Surgery**
  - 5 years Residency in General Surgery accredited by PCS
  - Must have passed certifying examination given by the PBS (Board eligible/Diplomate)
  - At least qualified to take PBS certifying examination and the submission of satisfactory results of the in-service training examinations

IV. **Pulmonary Medicine**
  - PCP Diplomate

V. **Anesthesiology**
  - 3 years Residency in General Anesthesia accredited by PBA (Board eligible)
  - 3 months (October to December) pre-fellowship (except for graduates of the Philippine Heart Center Anesthesia Residency Program)

VI. **1 Year Clinical Research Fellowship for** Non-Invasive Cardiology, Invasive Cardiology, Cardiac Rehabilitation, Critical Care Medicine, Electrophysiology, Peripheral Vascular Medicine, Pediatric Invasive & Non-Invasive Cardiology, Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery and Pulmonary Medicine.

1 Year Fellowship Program for Radiology, Nuclear Medicine, and Biological and Clinical Laboratory.

RESIDENCY (QUERT not required) fill up application at DOH for matching (for Medical Board Passers)

I. **Radiology**
II. **Nuclear Medicine**
III. **Biological and Clinical Laboratory (Pathology)**

General Requirements for Application for Fellowship & Residency:

1. Medical Diploma
2. Transcript of Records with the General Average
3. Itemized Board Rating
4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (coming from different Doctors specifically the Training Officer &/or Director of the previous training programs)
5. Four (4) pcs. 2"x2" picture colored
6. Certificate of Residency in required specialty
7. Specialty Board Certificate in required specialty

Please address your communications to:
JOSE A. YULDE, M.D.
Assistant Director
Office of Education and Research
Philippine Heart Center
East Avenue, Quezon City

** Deadline for submission of application is on August 31, 2002*
** Academic Year 2003 starts on January 1, 2003*

For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela M. Ocasion (cp# 09196239902) or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia (cp# 09207645273) with Tel. Nos. 925-2401 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oer@phc.gov.ph

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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Local Government Unit (LGU) of Abulug as implementing partner of DAR for ARCP, invite prospective bidders to apply for eligibility and if eligible, to bid for the Concrete Paving of Simayung Dana-Ili Farm to Market Road, Abulug, Cagayan.

Eligibility statement forms and bidding documents may be secured by interested bidders at the office of the Chairman Bid and Award Committee (BAC) upon payment of non-refundable fee of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (P1,500.00) per set on July 8-12, 2002.

Submission of Application for Eligibility	**July 15, 2002 at 10:00 A.M.**
Pre-bid Conference	**July 22, 2002 at 10:00 A.M.**
Submission & Opening of Bids	**August 8, 2002 at 10:00 A.M.**

The approved budget for this project is Seventeen Million Five Hundred Ninety Three Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Nine Pesos and Eleven Centavos (P17,593,459.11).

The BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever or indemnify to the bidder for the bid most advantageous to the Government. The provision of PD 1594 and its implementing Rules and Regulations as amended August 2000, shall apply to this invitation.

(Sgd.) **BABY ALINE V. ALFONSO**
Chairman
Bid and Award Committee

(PDI--July 6, 8 & 10, 2002)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
CENTER FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT
REGIONAL OFFICE NO. 2
CAGAYAN VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER
City of Tuguegarao, Cagayan

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

The Cagayan Valley Medical Center hereby invites all interested parties to pre-qualify and bid for the following:

A. Supply and delivery of various Drugs and Medicines
B. Supply and delivery of Medical/Surgical Supplies, Laboratory Reagents, X-Ray and Dental Supplies, Hospital Equipment
C. Office, Linen, Laundry and Housekeeping Supplies

A pre-bidding conference will be held on following dates:

1. Office, Linen, Laundry and Housekeeping Supplies - **July 29, 2002**
2. Supply and delivery of Medical/Surgical Supplies, Laboratory Reagents, X-Ray and Dental Supplies, Hospital Equipment - **July 30, 2002**
3. Supply and delivery of various Drugs and Medicines - **July 31, 2002**

This will be held at CVMC Conference Hall at 9:00 AM, submission and opening of bids will be held on **August 19-21, 2002**, issuance of Bid documents will be from **August 1-14, 2002**.

Only pre-qualified bidders will be issued bid documents and allowed to participate in the bidding upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00).

Interested qualified bidders may obtain further details from the Cagayan Valley Medical Center Pre-qualification Bids and Awards Committee.

CVMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids to waive any formality found therein or to accept such bids as may be considered advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **EMMANUEL F. ACLUBA, MD, MHA**
Chief of Hospital III

(PDI – July 6, 8 & 10, 2002)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DIVISION
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 8974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ST. ANTHONY'S BLDG., AURORA BLVD., QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6872354 ☎ 6872366 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8424503 ☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

YORK (U.S.A.) CASKETS
YORK
... because they deserve only the best.
*For more information, please call your funeral director

DEANNA MARIE T. FELIPE

April 5, 1940 - July 3, 2002

Survived her husband **Dominador**; children **Carolyn Mae, Dr. Ma. Victoria, Juan Ramon & Deanna May**; children-in-law **Ronald** and **Cay** & grandchildren **Aia, Kenjie & Miguel**; siblings **Daniel & Evelyn Mae** with sisters-in-law **Zendy, & Rufina** and **Tiya Galoy.**

Her remains lie in state at Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Sucat Road, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on July 7, 2002 at the Manila Memorial Park after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

In Loving Memory of

ROQUE PAMPO RELOPEZ

who peacefully joined his Creator on June 29, 2002
at the age of 81.

His bereaved wife **Luciana**; children **Dolly, Nita, Jim & Malou, Glo & Teody, Carol, Delfin & Mercy** and **Cristy**; grandchildren **Jedi, Jemiro, Megan, Karen, Gian, Kirsten, Camille** and **Diana** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at his residence at 2609 Int. 582 Callejon Q.R. Fernandez St., Gagalangin, Tondo, Manila. Interment will be on Saturday, July 13, 2002, 1:30 p.m. at the Eternal Garden, Baesa, Quezon City.

We've added another dignified service to keep the memory of your departed loved ones.

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
CREMATORY SERVICES
ON CALL 24 HOURS A DAY
143 G. Araneta Avenue corner Kaliraya Street, Quezon City
Telephone Nos.: 749-3806 to 11 • 712-3001 • 743-6502
743-6505 • 743-6508 • Fax No.: 712-2782
102 years

The
QUISUMBING IGNACIO GUIA & LAMBINO LAW OFFICES
announce with deep sorrow the passing away of
its Founder and Senior Partner

ATTY. RAMON V. QUISUMBING, JR.

who joined his Creator,
his Papa and Mama and brother ***Doy***
on June 11, 2002 in Toronto, Canada

His family:
Teena
Monique and **Art**
Monet
Anna
Bong
and **Boodie**, **Paulina**, **Bea** and **Joaquin**

and all his other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

A private Mass will be held in his memory on July 6, 2002 at the National Shrine of the Divine Child, La Salle, Greenhills.

EDUARDO P. CASTAÑEDA SR.

of Project 4, Quezon City

has serenely joined the Lord in His kingdom
on July 4, 2002 at the age of 76.

His bereaved wife **Cristina**; his children **Edna and family**; **Eduardo Jr. and family, Linda, Editha, Edmond** and **family, Ernesto and family, Anthony and family**; his sisters **Policronia, Conchita, Fely** and **Aniceta**; his nephews and nieces request the kind readers to please pray for his eternal rest.

His body lies in state at his residence in #41 Diego Silang Street, Project 4, Quezon City.

Funeral Mass and interment will be announced later.

AGRIPINA CONSUNJI - BANZON

Peacefully joined her Creator
on July 4, 2002 at the age of 81.

Her bereaved husband **Manuel Jr.**; and children **Susan & Van Villar, Nona & Ronnie Dizon, Julie & Emil de Leon, Manuel III & Annabel Banzon, Annie & Eduardo Tuazon, Jerry & Ludy Banzon**; grandchildren; sister **Ediltrudes C. Vinzon**; brother **Johnny Consunji** and other relatives and friends mourn her passing away but celebrate her eternal rest with the Lord Jesus.

Her remains lie in state at the family residence in Balanga City, Bataan.

Interment will be on Monday, July 8, 2002 at the Eternal Shrine Memorial Park after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the St. Joseph Cathedral, Balanga City.

ERRATUM

In the ad Re: 6th Death Anniversary Notice of the late **Judge Manuel K. Gruba** published June 25, 2002 in this paper, the phrase **formerly of the Court of Tax Appeals** was inadvertently printed as formerly of the Court of Appeals.

We regret the error.

"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord."
Matthew 10:39

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring... **INQUIRER OBITUARIES**

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS
and bank-to-bank payments

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS
FREE OBIT DESIGN

Please join us in prayerful remembrance of

SISTER MARIA CAROLINA NIEVA OF THE CROSS

who entered into the joy of God at the Makati Medical Center
on July 5, 2002 at the age of 60.

Her remains are at the Assumption Chapel, San Lorenzo Village, Makati City. The Funeral Mass will be on July 9, 2002 at 8:30 a.m., after which her remains will be brought to and buried in Assumption, Antipolo.

The Religious of the Assumption,
her sisters, brother, nephews and nieces
and their families.

Phase V Afpovai breaks ground for water distribution line

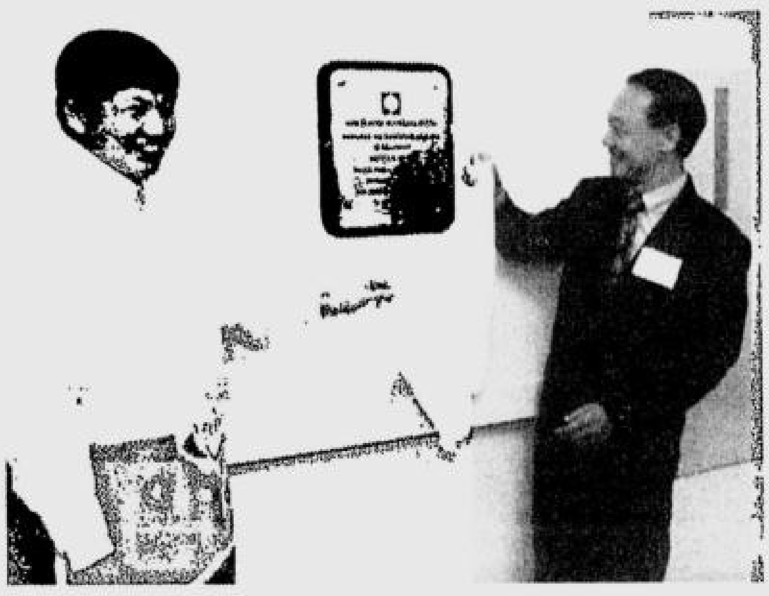
THE PHASE V Board through its Kagitingan Multi Purpose Cooperative and Manila Water Company (MWC) have opened the water distribution line project in Phase V Afpovai, Fort Bonifacio recently. The project was lauded by Taguig mayor Freddie Tinga, Brig. Gen. Ernesto Dauz, Gen. Percival Adiong of Phase V and Antonino Aquino, president of MWC. MWC head Loida Dino committed herself to finance the necessary funds.

The project amount is P2.5 million, or P10,000 per member for the 250 official Phase V members. Completion period is two months. The design was initiated and to be implemented by Maj. Bards Fabula, chair of the Development Comm and a resident of Phase V. All members are required to pay their contribution once the project is started. No sub meter is allowed to other members who refuse to get the MWC water. Likewise, no member within Phase V will be allowed to connect directly to MWC. The Board also approved the connection charge for commercial areas along Bayani Road, such as the AFPSLAI, to be pegged at P20,000. The water pressure is 15 psi, enough to supply a two-story house. The monthly water bill is expected to go down by almost 700 percent from P3,000 down to P450 for an average 30 cu. m. The material to be used is the standard Moldex product recommended by the MWSS. The meter base will be placed at respective residences.

All concerned members are required to pay their contribution P10,000 and the P2,500 cooperative membership to the cooperative treasurer Maj. Hermogenes Manongsong at Lot 12 Block 83 Phase V Afpovai, Taguig, Fort Bonifacio, with local telephone number 8005 or 0916-5451399 immediately. A delay in payment is subject to penalty of 10 percent per month effective April 24 and is required before the water connection is made. All new members are advised to update their records to the treasurer before paying the contribution. Payment can be done through fund transfer to Kagitingan Multi Purpose Cooperative in any Landbank office nationwide.

US EMBASSY JOINS ASIAFOOD EXPO

The Commercial Service of the Embassy of the United States of America signed a contract agreement with Trade Information Marketing and Exhibitions Inc. recently to join the AsiaFood Expo 2002, the 11th International Exposition on Food Processing, Packaging & Handling Machinery, Equipment & Technology from Sept. 4 to 7 at the World Trade Center Metro Manila. Trade Information Marketing & Exhibitions is the organizer of AsiaFood Expo. Sealing the contract with a handshake are George Ruffner, commercial counselor of the US Embassy, and Leonides Cuizon, president of Trade Information Marketing & Exhibitions. Witnessing the rites are Annie Bersaluna, trade promotions director, Trade Information Marketing & Exhibitions, and Cleo Alday, senior commercial specialist, US Embassy.



AHMC DEDICATION MARKER UNVEILED

Asian Hospital and Medical Center (AHMC) recently held the formal unveiling of the marker of dedication to the late Antonio Chan. AHMC dedicated the Cardiovascular ICU to his family for their support for the completion and maintenance of the state-of-the-art equipment housed in the ICU wing. AHMC aims to be the center of excellence not only in heart care but also in the other fields of medicine in terms of having the most modern facilities and in delivering first-class patient care. Located at the Filinvest Corporate City in Alabang, AHMC is now in full operation. Shown is Asian Hospital Founding chair Dr. Jorge M. Garcia (left) and balladeer Jose Mari Chan unveiling the marker on behalf of his late father.

Get fashionable looks with Beauty Touch cosmetics

JUST like your clothes, what's fashionable or not in make-up changes with the times. If you are someone concerned with the newest make-up styles, you need a cosmetic line that helps you cope with the forever-fickle fashion world.

Beauty Touch Cosmetics is a make-up line for the fashionable Filipina. This wide range of make-up shades suits your every mood. Best of all, you can mix and match them to make over 400 make-up combinations. How's that for versatility? You can create as many fashionable looks as you want without spending a fortune.

Create a number of color combinations with Beauty Touch's Eyeshadow Quad to highlight your expressive eyes. Go for natural impact with the warm palette of Glazed Brownies. Achieve sheer emphasis with the barely-there shades of Chiffon Neutrals. Glow with mystery from Northern Exposure's wintry ice queen appeal. Look fabulous with Night Velvet's darker shades for some evening allure.

Emphasize or create the illusion of prominent cheekbones with Beauty Touch Powder Blusher Duo on your cheeks. Achieve a natural glow that evokes a just-pinched-my-cheeks look with Natural Blush ideal for daytime occasions. Use Foxy Red for more dramatic looks perfect for your evening engagements.

Use Beauty Touch's wide range of lipstick shades to fit any occasion. Go for impact with the Brilliant line of shades in Silver Lilac, Iced Coffee and Copper. Look natural with the sheer colors of the Veil line in Almost Red, Velvet Gloss or Brown Shimmer. Get seductive with the glossy and moisture-rich shades of the Moist line in Pretty Pink, Rose Caress, Raspberry, Azalea and Fresh Honey. Be daring with Matte shades in Garnet, Cherry Choco, Black Cherry, Nectarine, Deep Scarlet, Russian Red, Pecan Fudge and Henna. Create colorful, inviting lips with the Cream line in Tender Tan, Café Mocha, Spicy Red and Autumn Rose.

Beauty Touch is available exclusively at Sara Lee Direct (formerly House of Sara Lee) and authorized Sara Lee dealers nationwide. For inquiries, call the Sara Lee Hotline at 810-5402.

Sara Lee Corp. is a global-branded consumer packaged-goods company with approximately $20 billion in annual revenues. Its leading brands worldwide include Playtex, L'eggs, Kiwi, Douwe Egberts, Din, Hillshire Farm, Jimmy Dean and Bryan.

In the Philippines, Sara Lee Direct's line of prestigious brands includes Playtex, Color Collection, Ivana, Georgie on Ice, Zwitsal and Cool Splash!

NORTH TRIANGLE MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING

National Housing Authority general manager Edgardo D. Pamintuan (2nd from left) and Barangay Bagong Pag-asa chair Josefina Ronquillo sign the agreement for the construction of a temporary multi-purpose building in the North Triangle Project to house two classrooms and one livelihood center to benefit residents of the North Triangle Project Area. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo tasked the NHA to oversee the construction of the structure. P1 million from the President Social Fund was released to the barangay project. Looking on are Kagawad members and NHA National Capital Region manager engineer Arthur Cabantac (right).

CMMA 2002 LA
and 'Word in the Street'
May 20, 2
SGV Room, Aim Confe

CHAN GRACES CMMA LAUNCH

International Balladeer Jose Mari Chan graced the Catholic Mass Media Awards 2002 launch recently at the AIM Conference Center. He was also one of the major sponsors during the book launching of Fr. James Reuter's 'Word in the Street' published by CMMA. Shown from left are Sherica So Goduco, marketing coordinator, Celia P. Goduco, head of the CMMA secretariat, Jose Mari Chan, Maricar Pascua, activity coordinator, and Michael Y. De Rojas, student CMMA coordinator.

Manila Science grand reunion

THE MANILA Science High School Batch '72 will hold its Pearl Anniversary grand reunion from July 8 to 10 with Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Sixto Roxas as guest of honor and speaker. The reunion will have as its theme "Batch '72: Klasmeyts Kahit Saan, Kahit Kailan." The opening day on Monday will be held at the MSHS auditorium, to be highlighted by the turnover of 10 computers donated by the batch. The batch will also give plaques of appreciation to former teachers and tour the school. A dinner dance with live band will follow at the Pearl Hotel Manila along Taft Avenue and Gen. Luna Street in Ermita. The next two days will be held at the Tagaytay Highlands. Batch '72 alumni can get in touch with Melvin Miranda at 812-5822 and Edwin Monzon at 637-2248 to 50 for details.

Product FILES

Bread Connection's new stores

AFTER 18 years of offering quality gourmet sandwiches, Bread Connection has finally opened its doors to business partners who wish to be part of this tradition. In less than a year, Bread Connection has offered its signature products like the Classic Super Connection and the innovative foot-and-a-half long sausage known as Connection Special, to new markets through its franchised stores. These new stores are Madison Square along Ortigas Avenue, The Strip in Katipunan, The Outlet Yard along Quezon Avenue, Meralco Avenue, Greenhills Theatre Mall, SM Centerpoint, Antipolo, and its first provincial store at the Metrotown Mall Supermarket in Tarlac. For franchise inquiries, call 687-0297 to 99.

PHOTOplus
FIRST NATIONAL SALES MEETING
MAY 22, 2002
MANILA MIDTOWN HOTEL

PHOTOPLUS KICKS OFF 2002 WITH A BANG

Photoplus, the country's largest single-owned chain of photo shops, recently held its first National Sales Meeting at the Manila Midtown Hotel. All of the 400 employees of Photoplus gathered together for the first time to meet and discuss the company's unprecedented growth since the start of 2002. The event's highlight was the surprise awarding of the Top 12 Quota Busters of the first quarter, headed by the SM Fairview outlet. Tony Ang, left, president of Pilipinas Photoplus Marketing Inc., delivering the inspirational remarks. Right photo shows the store personnel of SM Fairview with the company's top executives (from left) Claire A. de Leon, marketing manager, Evelyn C. Datu, operations manager, George C. Chua, chair and chief executive officer, Maria Dorothy Signey, SM Fairview store manager, Maribel Sevilla, Prescy Salcedo, manager for Area 1, Byron Javier, Wilson Losing, Samson Macasa and Andres Sauilo.

Bits Clips

'Kontrabandido' at Araneta Center

BIG STARS in the music industry, radio and television will lead performers who will join the first-ever noon-to-midnight marathon concert targeted to hit the deadliest menace in the music industry—piracy. On Saturday, July 6 at the Araneta Center, the "Pilipino Kontrabandido anti-piracy Marathon Konsiyerto" will feature open air concert stages with three setups: Ali Mall and Farmers Plaza atriums and the Araneta Coliseum outdoor area where the main stage will be located. Four telephone hotlines are to be installed at the main stage where music fans can call to voice their support of the anti-piracy move. ABS-CBN's "Magandang Tanghali Bayan" will be aired live from the three stages from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m. From 4:30 to 7, Studio 23 will pick up with an hourly live feed. From 7 to 9, there will be another grand show by the "Klasmeyts."

Cars and cash in Petron promo

GAS UP at any Petron station for a chance to win big cash in major draws, and dash away in a brand new Ford Explorer, Honda CRV or Mitsubishi Pajero at the grand raffle. "Gas, Cash and Dash" runs until July 12, and will be awarding more than P13 million in cash and prizes to motorists nationwide. The grand draw is on July 20 where three Petron Showcases will be given away. The Blaze Showcase gives away a brand new Ford Explorer plus 1000 liters of Blaze and one box of Ultron Premium. The XCS Showcase gives away a Honda CRV, 1000 liters of XCS Plus, and one box of Ultron. The Diesel Max Showcase raffles off a Mitsubishi Pajero, 1000 liters of Diesel Max, and one box of Rev-X. A single or accumulated purchase worth P300 of any of Petron's branded products entitles you to a raffle coupon. Each approved BPI-Petron Mastercard within the promo period also entitles cardholder to one raffle coupon.

RP forex reserves drop to $16.88B in June

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE COUNTRY'S dollar reserves fell to $16.88 billion as of end-June, down by $200 million or 1.17 percent from the previous month's $17.08 billion as the government settled maturing obligations worth more than $500 million.

The gross international reserves went down in June despite a fresh $300 million in national government borrowings from the seven-year global bond market whose proceeds were released last month.

"The slight drop was due to scheduled payments of some maturing debts of the government," said Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Rafael Buenaventura.

Traders said the central bank continued to accumulate dollars from the spot market despite the renewed weakness of the peso against the greenback in June. Normally, the BSP sells dollars to temper the peso's volatility during times of weakness.

A central bank official confirmed that the BSP did not sell dollars in June but was a net buyer although the central bank's purchases from the spot market in June were much lower from its level in May when the peso was trading at the low 49:$1 levels.

In March, the GIR reached an all-time high of $17.36 billion because of huge borrowings of the government since January.

The central bank said the current level of reserves could adequately cover for more than five months' worth of imports of goods and services and was more than three times the amount of the country's debts maturing within a one-year period.

Buenaventura said that even with a strong level of reserves, the central bank would maintain its GIR target this year to a range of $14 billion to $15 billion.

"We have this level of GIR because the government had borrowed its requirements in advance," said the central bank chief. This means that in the coming months, the dollar reserves would also be depleted to settle maturing foreign obligations of the government.

In January, the GIR was boosted by a $750-million bond issue of the government and a $300-million borrowing of the BSP. In March, the government again borrowed $1 billion from the foreign market.

A banking analyst agreed that the strong GIR was superficial since much of the funds boosting the reserves would be withdrawn from the BSP vaults within the year to pay the $1.5 billion in maturing debts of the national government and $1 billion in obligations of the state-owned National Power Corp.

The healthy level of gross reserves would further ensure that the peso would remain stable. The central bank, traders said, was armed with enough cash to fight peso speculators.

A strong GIR assures the country's trading partners that it could pay its debts and imports. Thus, it should further improve the confidence of foreign investors and creditors in the Philippines.

The level of dollar reserves is particularly important to the psychology of the foreign exchange market since a weak GIR gives an impression that the central bank would not have the resources to defend the peso against speculative attacks.

Comprised mainly of US dollars, the GIR is the total foreign currency holdings of the central bank including gold and special drawing rights, the currency used by the International Monetary Fund.

The reserves normally increase with every foreign borrowing of the government or the private sector and decline every time a foreign obligation or importation is settled.

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Banks' dollar loans down 5%

DOLLAR loans from the banks' foreign currency deposit units continued to decline in the first quarter to $5.283 billion, down by $276 million or about 5 percent from $5.559 billion during the fourth quarter of 2001.

The slack in FCDU loans continued despite a gradual recovery of the export sector this year. The 15.7-percent contraction in the country" exports last year was largely blamed for the 11-percent plunge in banks' dollar loans in 2001 from $6.25 billion in 2000.

Exporters still cornered the bulk of the dollar loans with a 27-percent share of the FCDU loan portfolio while utilities ate up 26 percent.

BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura explained that repayments of $272 million in loans brought down the exposure of FCDUs to borrowers. Aside from repayments, a $4-million revaluation of the greenback against other currencies pulled the loan portfolio down even further.

Residents accounted for 98 percent of loans extended by banks' dollar deposit units.

A bank analyst said that loans from the FCDUs have been trending down since year 2000 when the peso lost a huge value against the dollar and made borrowing from the dollar deposit units more expensive.

At the same time, the analyst said the depreciation of the peso was accompanied by the weakness in the economy that led to huge inventories, specially of manufacturing firms. This excess capacity thwarted new expansion plans and thus, tempered the need of the private sector to secure fresh loans.

"Some borrowers also chose to convert their dollar loans into pesos to minimize their foreign exchange risks while a lot of banks were still reluctant to book new exposures years after the Asian financial crisis," said the BSP chief.

As a result of the lower loans, the loans-to-deposit ratio of the banks' FCDUs also went down to 39.3 percent in the first quarter from 41.8 percent during the fourth quarter of 2001. The ratio's decline was consistent with the drop in loans.

Peso seen slightly firmer at year-end

THE PESO is expected to strengthen to about 49.65 to the dollar by end-2002, aided by general weakness in the US currency, a global economic pick-up and a supportive domestic environment.

According to a Reuters poll of 10 economists, favorable local liquidity conditions and stronger exports would also help underpin the peso.

The forecasts for end-2002 ranged from P48.0 to P51.3 to the dollar. They also predicted, on average, that the peso should stay more or less flat at 49.6 at end-June 2003.

"(The stronger peso) is basically a reflection of dollar weakness this year, it's the same for other regional currencies," said MMS/S&P economist Dave Cohen.

The dollar has lost more than 9 percent against both the euro and the yen so far this year due to worries about the pace of the US economic recovery and its large current account deficit.

Typically many Asian currencies, including the peso, follow movements in the yen.

"The peso continues to be supported by a very favorable environment—loose liquidity conditions, global recovery outlook and a firmer yen—meanwhile the domestic environment has been reasonably positive with the government illustrating its commitment to reform," Standard Chartered economist Steve Brice said in a report.

He added, however, that this would not last forever, with signs the Bank of Japan had started to intervene to halt the yen's ascent putting regional currencies under pressure.

A power struggle in the Senate had also weakened the government's ability to press ahead with reforms, he added.

"While the near-term outlook for the peso looks reasonably good, the natural bias for weakness never looks far from the surface," Brice said

Reuters

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[é la'] flair, distinction, class
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In the mood for 'BOY ToYS'?

What's inside

Home is the traveler D1

Portrait of a First Daughter C2

By Thelma Sioson San Juan
Contributor

WHEN Marge asked me to write on youth in line with this issue's theme, I told myself youth's too general. It's like tackling terrorism which can run the range from Abu Sayyaf to bin Laden.

So focus, I told myself. Honestly this time I can't do youth, as in my kids, for since I wrote that "there's a girl in my son's room," my sons asked me to cease and desist from using them as story material. "You've written everything already (about us)," they said with a fighting stare. I wanted to say, "not really, you'll be surprised," but didn't; that would have been bad parenting strategy or courting libel.

Therefore, since to 40something people like us, youth is everything and everyone who's not 40something yet, I decided to take the topic to the broadest horizon and focus on "boy toys"—in relation to us women who are in between being very young and very old.

No sex or romance

I got this idea when I had lunch with a girl friend my age more than a year ago. She has a beautiful home with a good husband, who's also been a stimulating soul mate all these years, and beautiful kids. In short, she's truly well married (I never use "happily married" carelessly) and has a good writing career.

Being a writer, she's insightful and loves picking your brain, thus our lunch was a minefield of the nuances that come with our age and life stage. She's also always in search of topics to write.

"Has it ever crossed your mind to have a boy toy?" she asked me out of the blue.

"Honestly, no," I was telling the truth, I swear. "I'm too much of a shopaholic to spare a budget for 'DIs' (dance instructor). That kind of money I'd rather save for a Ferragamo."

"I don't mean a DI or a kept man," she said. "I mean a guy younger than us."

> 'Has it ever crossed your mind to have one?' my girl friend asked me. 'Don't mean a DI but guys younger than us'

"Of course not. I'll never give Auggie (a friend) the satisfaction of being proved right that when a woman reaches her 40s, pay *ka na* for sex or companionship," I said. "My ego (which happens to be big) and my pride (even bigger) and my vanity (biggest of all) can't take that."

"No, not a man you pay. That's too movieish, *pang-matrona*," she said. "But a younger man whose company you find refreshing, actually makes you feel young again, not necessarily with romance or sex involved."

"No sex or romance, *para que pa*?" I was teasing her, but I was actually beginning to see her point. "But we're not that old."

"You don't have to be old," she said. "Honestly that thought crossed my mind when I was interviewed yesterday by xxx (she said the name of a relatively young male editor who's neither goodlooking or badlooking) and we got to talking for hours.

Stimulating company

Very young ideas but actually stimulating. Very intelligent. A bit idealistic, not jaded, not man of the world, yet not childish or immature. And kinda wholesome.

Actually I know the guy she was talking

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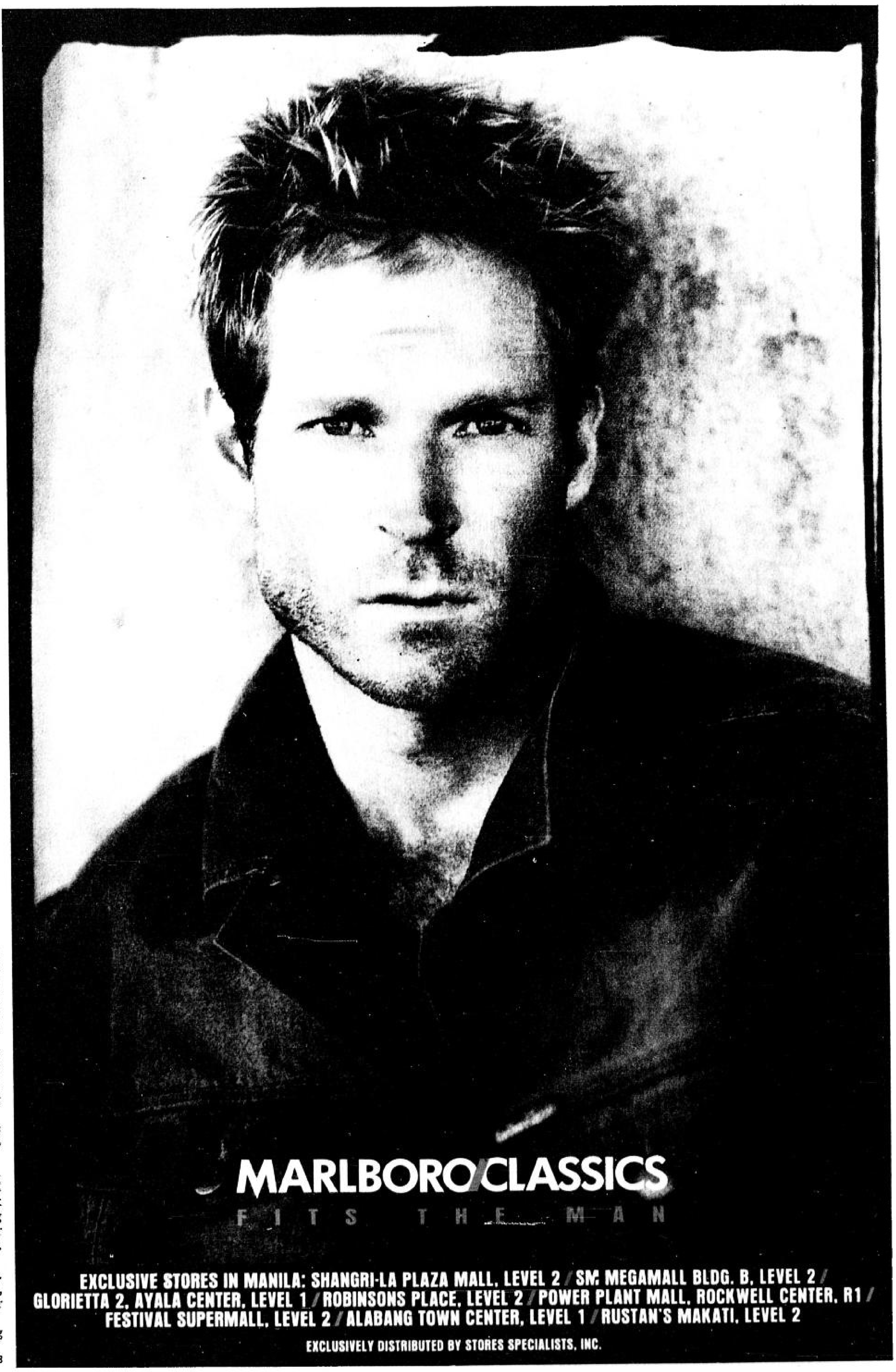

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Portrait of a First Daughter

BY MARGE C. ENRIQUEZ
PHOTOS BY RAYMUND ISAAC

EVANGELINA Lourdes "Luli" Arroyo is not like other young VIPs that we've met. The media-shy First Daughter comes on time for meetings, brings a lunchbox to work, and wouldn't be caught dead buying a P6,000 t-shirt.

You could say that Luli is a chip off the old block. Like her mother, President Arroyo, and her late grandmother and namesake, former First Lady Evangelina Macapagal, Luli's life is rooted in humility, which is the mother of all virtues. From humility stems love for God, strong family ties, prudence and modesty—values that the Macapagals have always espoused.

Before this interview, Luli showed some propriety by asking an officemate to inform this writer that she might be 30 minutes late for the pictorial, as her early morning meeting had gone overtime. Other spoiled daughters would have thought nothing of keeping writer and photographer clueless. The best part is that, in the end, Luli appeared only five minutes later than the appointed time.

She wore an olive suit by JC Buendia that she had borrowed from her mother. Since junior high school, Luli and her mother had been swapping clothes and shoes (size four). The President would sometimes use her daughter's jeans, polo shirts and white shirts on provincial sorties while Luli would occasionally wear some of mom's dressier clothes.

For this shoot, Élan dressed her up in casuals that reflected her fashion nonchalance. When our petite sitter fitted a Façonnable striped shirt, the deep V-neckline revealed an ample cleavage, which the three-tier Mikimoto pearl necklace further emphasized. Immediately, photographer Raymund Isaac nixed the shirt, saying it drew the attention away from the face.

Between changes, Luli looked at the (P6,000 to P8,000) price tags of the Façonnable clothes and exclaimed, "*Ano?* It's so expensive. I can't afford these."

She can, of course, but she has other priorities, the main one being to live out her motto: "I still take to heart the things I learned from Assumption, such as fidelity to duty and love for simplicity."

With her political pedigree, it was inevitable that she would work closely with her family. She was the personal secretary of her late grandfather, former President Diosdado Macapagal when he traveled overseas, her mother's executive assistant during her GMA's bids for the Senate and the Vice Presidency.

Luli certainly isn't awed by the title "First Daughter."

"I see it more as a responsibility. We need to help my mother in little ways. I, for one, think it's better for her family members to stay away from the public eye. It minimizes incidents and suspicions of *palakasan*. This is why I hesitate to come out in media," she said. And the few times she did, Luli talked about two things only—her foundation work and her family. She would not discuss personal matters, such as dating or...when her birthday is, although she wouldn't mind revealing she is 31.

Helping teachers

Once upon a time, Luli had her life mapped out. She dreamed of a career in foreign service, pursued the graduate course at her mother's alma mater, Georgetown University, and passed the qualifying exams. With her mother's power, Luli could very well get a job at the Department of Foreign Affairs or a post abroad, but she has chosen not to take advantage of it. However, her background is put to good use in the Philippine Foundation for Global Concerns where she is the program officer. The post requires a lot of research and making PowerPoint presentations for her boss and coordinating international conferences.

Luli first worked at Ayala Land's public affairs division, getting involved in social responsibility projects. Four years ago, she was offered a job at the Foundation for Information Technology Education and Development, where she is now director for operations. The foundation's mission is to improve the quality of teaching in public schools, by introducing computers and the Internet as instructional aids.

In graduate school, Luli wrote a paper on IT as an important factor in Philippine development. "When I was invited to join the foundation, I thought it was perfect because I knew something about the industry, and I wanted to be on the nonprofit side of IT."

She described the culture of her workplace as congenial. "We have titles, but it's only on paper. In reality, we do everything ourselves, and we help each other."

> She's punctual, speaks NGO jargon, brings a packed lunch to work, and would never buy a P6,000 shirt

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Luli would speak in NGO jargon when discussing her work, using such phrases as "capacity building," "policy advocacy," "sustainability," and "principles of community mobilization."

What she liked most about her job, she said, was going to the provinces and holding workshops with public school teachers and principals, in order to understand their concerns. She discovered that their problems revolved around budget (with which to buy and install computers), and fears that IT would soon replace the teachers. Luli said she would always make the effort to listen well, and speak in the dialect.

Looking at her resume, one would surmise that journalism would have been an alternative career for her. Luli has edited journals, written for international publications, and drafted speeches. She could even do the layout of a newspaper's front page.

Moral support

As First Daughter, Luli also sees it as her job to provide moral support for her parents. She recalled, "At the height of Edsa 2, we were unsure of what was going to happen. My mother would take catnaps between meetings. The only thing we could do was to be with her, to pray for her and to let her know that we were there for her. It helped her relax a bit."

When oppositionists contested her father's integrity, Luli quickly came to his defense. "I told people that they were wrong about him. He didn't know I spoke out for him, and when he found out, he appreciated it."

Luli said she looked up to her parents as role models. "My mother is the hardest-working person in the world. My father absorbs a lot of her stress. Even if we are a matriarchal society, it is difficult for many Filipinos to accept a man who is just in the background, supporting a woman. The best things I have learned from them and my grandparents are humility and responsibility."

She conceded that her mom could be "officious, if she wants to be, but she's not. She said the President didn't even care if people failed to address her properly, "for as long as they don't show disrespect for the presidency." As for her dad, "He just takes in stride the comments about him especially from people who don't know him."

Luli stressed that the First Family maintained strong ties. "Even if my mother is extremely busy, she still gives so much importance on doing things together as a family. We go scuba diving, my parents have gone mountain climbing and whitewater rafting. On Sundays, after lunch, the five of us would retire to their room and just talk. Our parents brought us up that way. If my brothers had an important basketball game, all of us would watch." GMA was very much a mother this way, Luli pointed out. In fact, she said, GMA would often tell her to tidy up her room, and advise her on personal matters.

Normal life

Except for the address and the bodyguards, Luli said, life hasn't changed much for her. In fact, she said, their guards had been instructed to be very discreet. If she had time to shop, "which is rare," Luli said she would rather go to discount places, and buy only things on sale. Home-cooked meals prepared by her father's *kusinera* were still tops for her, she said. For breakfast, she would always have fried rice and *daing na bangus*, and her packed lunch usually consisted of traditional family recipes lilke *almondigas*, *mongo*, baked chicken, a vegetable dish, and water.

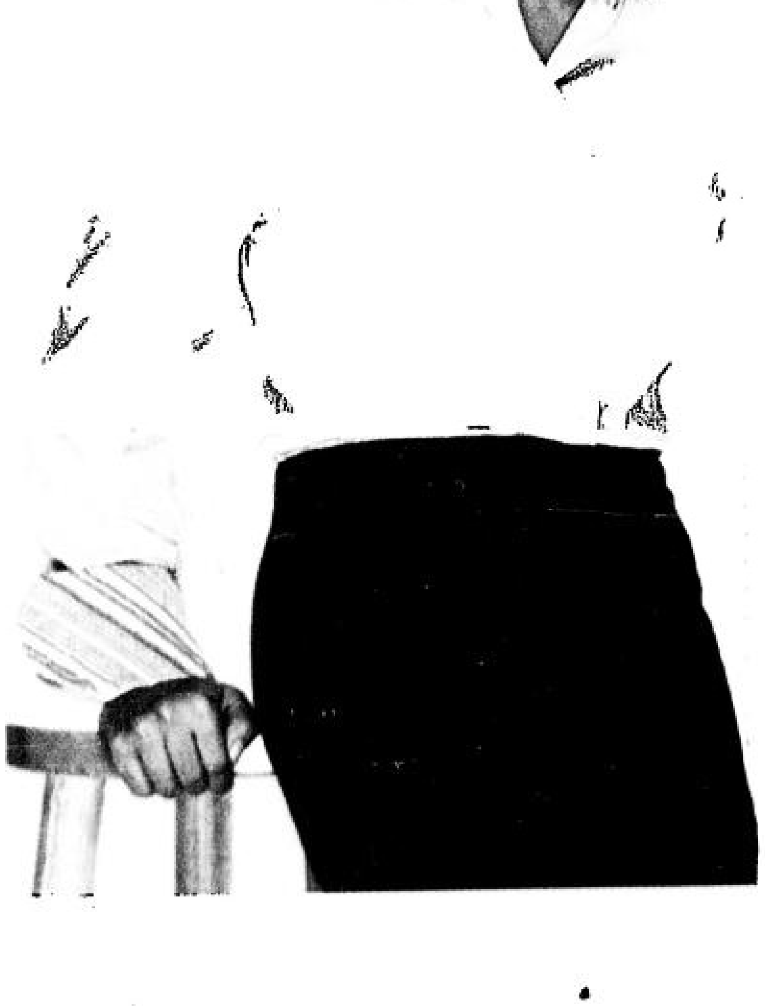
"If I had to buy food everyday, I would have no more salary to bring home," she remarked. "I am a tightwad like my *lola*, who was an Ilokana."

The only perks that came to her mind when asked, were being recognized in a restaurant and getting free dessert, or else accompanying the President on state visits.

"Some people don't understand that we our entitled to normal lives. They don't think I should be working, and sometimes people bow when I pass. When they meet me up close, they would be surprised and say, 'You're simple.' But that's just the way we were brought up. My grandmother used to say all the time that being in Malacañang was temporary."

In the future, Luli said, she hoped to expand community projects for the foundation. "We are undermanned," she sighed. "It's difficult, especially in getting funding."

She had no immediate plans of getting married, she said. "I'm happy with my life now." That's obviously because her happiness is sustained by—we guessed it—"My faith in God."



How to be dancesport champs

Two youthful tandems talk about their goals

By Becky Garcia
Contributor

FOR Elan's youth issue, we're focusing on the future of Philippine dancesport—Youth Latin American champions Erolle Melecio, 16, and Krystel Tadeo, 14; and Youth Standard champions Brian and Karla Ocana, a brother-and-sister team.

I first met Erolle and Krystel five years ago when I collaborated with the television variety show "Eat Bulaga" on a Kiddie Dancesport competition. Seeing the potential of this young pair who became the champions, I asked them to become the first young members of the Dancesport Council.

BRYAN and Karla Ocana

Bong Marquez and Belinda Adora trained the duo. They have since competed in Yakutsch, Russia, Singapore and Malaysia.

Erolle says he likes competitions because he enjoys challenges. Krystel also says she likes it, for a slightly different reason: "I have the talent for it."

EROLLE Melecio and Krystel Tadeo

When in training, Erolle and Krystel, who are both from Bulacan, rehearse every night for nearly four hours during school days. On weekends, they come to Manila to practice the whole day at the Dancesport Council of the Philippines' Center.

"We've been dancing for six years now," says Erolle. "It's good that Krystel has remained my partner."

Despite their busy schedules, they manage to devote enough time to their studies. Erolle is a senior at Montessori de Sagrada Familia in Bulacan, while Kristel is sophomore at Fernandez College. Kristel is an honor student.

Their dream is to become world champions in Latin dancing.

Erolle advises the youth to take up dancesport, as it helps develop both body and soul. Krystel adds, "We should reveal our talents because God gave them to us to be used."

Brian and Karla Ocana put their ballet training to good use. Karla started dancing at age seven and was a member of the Ballet Manila corps. Quitting at 14, she decided to go into dancesport. Brian, a natural dancer with a excellent musicality and stage presence, studied ballet for two years.

They first joined their mother's classes, learning the swing, reggae and rhumba. People noticed that Karla had the potential to do Latin. Mom introduced the kids to Edna Ledesma. Since they were quick studies and had a solid ballet background, brother and sister were soon joining competitions. Ledesma and Michael Mendoza trained them in Latin, while Edgar and Anna Borromeo further polished their modern dancing. The tandem practices four times a week, 5 to 9 p.m. at Bamboleo, Savannah and Ultra.

The Ocanas have realistic ambitions: They simply want to join as many competitions as possible, and be the best they can be.

Are we listening?

By Toti Dalmacion
Contributor

WE Filipinos have always been a musical lot.

We love to sing and perform, and this is pretty much why we have lots of good singers and musicians. Yet, talented though we may be and appreciative of music in general, the Filipino audience seems satisfied with the usual ballads and staple radio fare that never change.

I am able to enjoy pop music as much as the next person, and although I have my own preferences, I do understand what makes a "boy band" tick or why Linkin Park is big. I can appreciate mush from yesteryears to the present time but it's only because I have true love for music as a whole, not to mention music options, old or new, which enhances my musical palette.

Am I one of the lucky ones? Yes, if this were the '80s, not the age of the Internet and MTV.

Still, the majority (and I don't mean the masses) prefer the same, safe choices. I'm not just talking about the average love songs, but also about so-called cutting-edge music, or the alternative to the alternative. Should we blame radio for uninspired programming, or record companies for pushing a particular song or artist, by hook or by crook? They definitely share the blame, but for them it's just business. Besides, in the end, some unknown independent acts manage to achieve popularity even without the benefit of airplay.

Clearly, it's not just brainwashing, or over/under exposure that prevents us from being as open-minded as we should be. Perhaps deficient education is another major factor. Hype is often the name of the game, especially in popular music, and inevitably attached to this is misinformation—a lot of it.

Thus far, I've only scratched the surface. Another major obstacle to our openness is the fact that we Filipinos are not exactly adventurous in this area. We tend to wait until something—a new sound, a new beat, a new voice—is accepted and everyone's on to it, by which time the rest of the world is probably on to something else. Individualism has not been sufficiently emphasized in this country; instead so much premium has been placed on conformity to what society dictates as the norm.

It's not as though no one tries to provide alternatives. A few forward-thinking people do propose options, but they are met with subtle but considerable resistance. We've seen some progress, but not commensurate to our potential to initiate and sustain it, or to the number of years that have passed.

Are we listening? Apparently some are, as reflected in the barrage of non-mainstream releases from several record companies (thank you) and the increase in number of young record and CD collectors who buy, listen to, and promote an eclectic selection. These are kids who have developed a sense of music history and discovered funk, jazz, Latin, hip hop and house music and, at the same time, grooved to The Meters and Miles, on to Koop, Mondo Grosso, The Roots and Masters at Work.

There just might be hope for the next generation even if, at this point, they are still the minority, and not a loud one at that.

I say for the unadventurous soul, open your mind, as there's so much music out there to be heard and imbibed which can uplift all our lives. Don't be content with what's dealt by a system that insults you by saying this is all you can handle. I mean, there's nothing wrong with listening to Air Supply, but there are others you might just enjoy, once you let them in.

For the already trendy ones, be more individualistic and truly decide for yourself. Do not let society, not even your peers, dictate such crucial choices.

I hope this is not interpreted as a put down. Surely, music appreciation is the least of our problems but this endeavor goes beyond music. It helps shape the way we accept and appreciate new ideas, in order for us to move forward, in step with the rest of the world.

In the mood for 'boy toys'?

(FROM PAGE C1)

about because he worked with me, so I knew my friend's descriptions were apt, not exaggerated at all.

"I'm not thinking romance with him, certainly not an affair, but a company that's worth your time. Makes you feel young. The type you can call or be with any time. To talk seriously, or to talk playfully. So boy toy," she said.

"Am not even into discovering men yet, not done with that yet, so how can I go into toy boys," I said.

"Husbands have nothing to do with it. I'm not talking of affair, remember, toy boys can't be in the same league as husbands or even close to it," she said and I believe her because I know she's not the type to be vulnerable to an affair. "What I mean is that men our age now have a been there-done that attitude. Or they're men of th world just out to se duce you. D. O. M Or they're gay."

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

Now I see he point. As men age they run the rang from boring to sleazy They lose their sensitivity because they'r soldiers battle-wear from having to ear millions. They los their capacity fo "girl-talk" (not tha they had that abilit in the first place) they lose this ability come to think of it, after courtship. I gues what my friend mean is the men's ability t listen to women "girl talk."

If there are men ou there who talk and listen to women "girl-talk," these are the gays. That's why many women, especially yours truly, have gays for best friends.

Night outs

And this kind of company is not limited to talk, it extends to discovering "young" experiences, such as enjoying non-business socials or just night-outs, or even gyms or dancing. How many men do you know go dancing with their wives, or bother to escort their women/wives to women's socials like fashion shows? Again, which is why many women have "walkers"—men, usually gays, who escort women on nights-out, platonic night-outs. Safe company, usually (can't generalize).

Since that lunch with my friend, I've begun to observe the potential place of boy toys in the lives of 40something women like us. I don't mean DIs, gigolos or just plain hunks. Fortunately or otherwise I don't have friends who are into those already, not even into DIs (they're too stingy for that), so I'm no authority to write about that relationship dynamics.

But I have friends who have younger straight men for good company on their night-outs. They enjoy.

I myself do night-outs with 30something guys, when we pig out, gulp alcohol, trade business problems, peel off life's insights and angst, without me having to talk down to them, perhaps because they're intelligent and accomplished in their own fields. I feel not only comfortable but also safe perhaps because they don't do a number on you (flatter myself, huh) and they have girlfriends or steady dates. An enjoyable yet wholesome exercise and stimulating company.

And I enjoy them narrating to me, in graphic detail, the dating landscape of the here and now. I derive pleasure from hearing them describe how they cope-struggle is more like it actually—with today's young women, the girls they're trying to win. It's like the scenes from "Attack of the Clones, Episode III." It's just that these guys don't have a Yoda for an ally. I never thought, until now, that guys could truly have a bad case of nerves when it comes to girls, perhaps because when I was their age or even younger, I was on the other side of the fence and thus could never qualify as confidante to the enemy (guys my age then).

Not out to impress

I guess you can call these my "boy toys" in the sense that, to use my friend's definition, they bring you the refreshing company, angst, relatively innocent insights of youth. Their cynicism is still of a healthy, tolerable dose. Their sense of adventure or urge to discover life still far outweighs their sleaze (no offense meant to my corporate or newspaper colleagues).

And they're around when you just want to unwind.

They have the energy to check out with you the lifestyle jaunts and gigs you want to discover, something many men your age have lost curiosity about (again, unless they're gay).

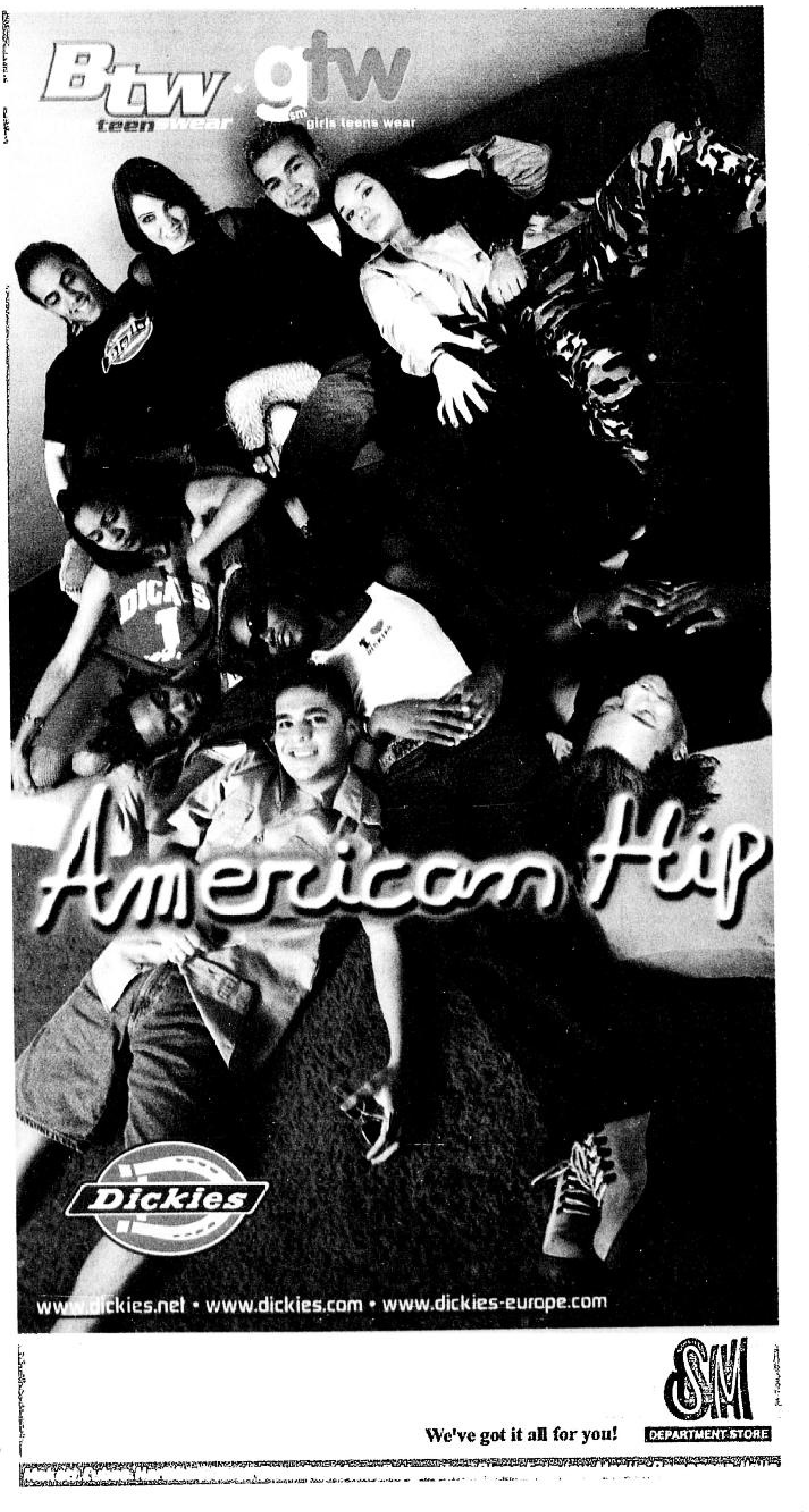
They're not out to impress you because they know you're not out to be impressed. It's a nothing-to-lose kind of night, for you and for them. Packaging is something they reserve for girls their age.

It is company like this that can make women like my friend and I feel younger than we actually are. It's like revisiting your 20s or 30s except that now you are on the side of the opposite sex, as an ally not the enemy—and as a wise confidante (they actually think I have the wisdom brought by age) who can give them advice about the enemy they want to marry someday.

I believe 40something women can use the excitement this kind of youth can bring into their daily grind. There's a downside though—forget your diet, for they eat like growing young men, which they are. But yes, they still open the door for you, just be brisk in your step lest it slams on you, given how fast these guys move.

However, once in a while, you run into 49-year-olds who are going on 18. Now I still don't have a tag for such.

(Write your feedback to tsanjuan@skyinet..net)



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Romancing the RACETRACKS on the way to F1

ENZO PASTOR Racing towards fame

BY TEDDY Y. MONTELIBANO
Contributor

"I WANT to be the reason that the Philippine National Anthem would be played in F1."

Coming from someone else, the statement could be dismissed as braggadocio. But 20-year-old Enzo Pastor is anything but cocky. The young man is, in fact, making strides in Philippine circuit racing and might just be the country's chance to get into the big league, the pinnacle of motorsports that is Formula 1.

Dusky, tall, and soft-spoken Enzo, whose quiet demeanor belies the aggressive but skillful manner in which he guns through the racetracks here and overseas, stood jubilant last month when he became the first Filipino to win in the 2002 Asian Formula Renault Championship race at the Zhuhai International Circuit in Guangdong province, mainland China.

Enzo raced for the family's Team T.E.C (named for his dad, Tom, himself and brother Carlo, likewise a racetrack driver) and sped past polesitter China's Franky Cheng of FRD Motorsports, to come out victorious in Round 5 of the Championship series, Formula Renault Division.

The victory was doubly sweet for the youthful racing idol, seeing how he beat China's best—his fiercest rival—and in Cheng's home turf, too.

Milestone record

Sure, Pastor didn't end the two-race leg well enough, but his record in Round 5 will forever be remembered in motorsports history. It might also be pointed out that Enzo still has got some ways to go before his name could be uttered in the same breath as veteran Philippine racing hero Jojo Silverio. But Silverio is a Formula 3 racer—a different category and altogether a different story.

Enzo's victory in Zhuhai and his performance in circuit racing thus far means that more eyes will be glued on this local boy as he goes on to tackle the remainder of the seven-leg, 14-race 2002 Asian Formula Challenge set in four countries, and which will culminate in October at the Subic International Racing circuit.

That's exactly how one lands Formula 1, every racetrack driver's penultimate dream—by getting big-time corporate sponsors and the international motorsports racing community to notice, while one wins in lower categories. In Enzo Pastor's case, this would be Formula Race Development, Formula Renault Division, and then on to Formula 3. With luck, skill and resources (plenty of it), one eventually gets to take a shot at the Big One (F1)!

No Filipino—nay, no Asian—has ever bagged the most sought-after prize in motorsports, the F1 trophy. Admittedly, Enzo has to work really hard, although right now there's no other Filipino in his category. He is the country's only card in Formula Renault, which, in the world of motorsports, is just a notch lower than Formula 3, the breeding ground for F1 potentials.

F1 trophy

If the measure of one's success were judged on the basis of the number of corporate sponsors, then one can say correctly that the young Pastor is, indeed, quite a success. Asian Formula 3 (AF3) Corporation, organizer of the Asian Formula Challenge race series, takes care of his vehicle, a Formula Renault/Titus chassis make, even as numerous major sponsors have plunked in sizeable amounts to free Enzo from worries so he could focus on grabbing 'em trophies. We're talking of the Philippine Gaming Corp., San Miguel Corp., Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, the Department of Tourism, Philippine Tourism Authority, Petron, FedexETRON, FEDEX, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes, Swatch/Gift Gate, National Broadcasting Corporation (92.3Fm), DWRX 93.1FM and 105.1FM Crossover Radio.

Of course, it is of great import that Enzo's father—tall, dark and silver-haired Tom Pastor who looks like an elder brother—used to be a circuit racetrack driver himself and continues to have a passion for the sport. Tom is president of Colby Ventures, Inc., which promotes the Asian Formula Challenge race series' Philippine leg.

Dad's role

Tom's role in his son's career is peerless, particularly when Enzo's mean, sleek and very expensive Formula vehicle gets banged up. Repair expenses, whether or not damage on one's car has been caused by a driver or a competitor are not part of the sponsorship package and thus must be borne by the driver himself.

How expensive is this sport? A brand new Formula 3 car sets one back by about $100,000, and about half that amount would be needed for a second-hand vehicle. Tires cost about P90,000 for a set of four and an accident like the one where Enzo figured in recently (his car's nose cone and wing were broken) could eat up at least P120,000.

Both aggressiveness and the visceral urge to get ahead of everyone else on the tracks are absolutely essential factors that must be present in any self-respecting racetrack driver if he should amount to anything. As all-time racing champ Jojo Silverio puts it, "You have no business racing if you don't or can't win—that's the be-all and end-all of anyone engaged in this sport." Enzo has absolutely no problem with these. In fact, he has to muster enough coolness to ease up on his aggression and competitiveness on the tracks.

Enzo's style

Of his driving style, Enzo said, "I'm quiet on the track, serious, but my competitors find me annoying as we heat up, you know, very aggressive...push, push!" We had met up at the Shangri-la Makati on the eve of his departure for Zhuhai. He was relaxed, almost laidback, the epitome of cool in cotton shirt, shorts and sandals. "Some people think I'm dirty coming as I do from saloon cars, But when you're out there, I'm 100 percent sure you will go through what I've gone through ..."

He's been burning rubber four years now, since he was 16 and first started racing saloon cars. It was an auspicious start. He bagged Rookie of the Year award on his first year. Overall, he finished among the top three in all the saloon car races that he joined within a two-year period. His dad gave him a Formula Toyota vehicle to join the local Batangas Race Circuit and he finished the season first runner-up. Last year, AF3 Corp. swooped in on his life and handed over a Formula Renault vehicle to compete with in the AFC series. "Being in Formula Renault means I get to handle a vehicle which looks similar to a F1 car. While a little scaled down, its technology is, nonetheless, excellent."

Quite predictably, he looks up to his dad, saying the elder Pastor is his "biggest influence" where car racing is concerned. "My dad supports me 110 percent," he stressed, "He's the one who pushes me, who taught me most of what I know—when to shift, when to step on the gas; he's my idol." That may be, but when he's on the tracks, he's all on his own.

Enzo has been in a couple of minor mishaps in the racetracks, but he said current-day Formula cars were built so that they are "about 700 percent safer than their predecessors of say, five years ago."

Ultra-safe cars

For instance, he pointed out, racecars in the past were usually made of aluminum and fiberglass so "if you're coming down the tracks at 245 kms per hour and hit two rows of tires, just figure out what'll happen to your car, particularly since their fuel tanks then were made of aluminum. One spark upon impact could blow up the entire thing." In contrast, cars now are made of substantially tougher materials like carbon fiber with rubberized gas tanks that are cushioned from impact, and with a valve that would automatically shut off the car engine should a fuel leak occur.

"Everything's been thought of," said Enzo. "You've got your helmet and your straps and the only possible thing that can possibly get you in really serious trouble is if you're careless and disorganized."

When he moves on to Formula 3 racing next year, the distance between where he is right now, and the all-time goal of racing F1 will be just a notch away. All he needs to do is maintain his current position in the Formula Renault Division classification till the end of the AFC series.

We asked if he had heard people say he's the country's only contender for the European-dominated F1 races, and he answered in the negative. "I'm within the age bracket. But there are a lot of guys younger than me out there who are pretty good." That might be so, we pointed out, but all the droppable names younger than Enzo are still in go-kart racing.

"So," Enzo conceded, "I guess I'm the only one." And this was where he gave that wistful remark, "I'd like to be the reason that '*Bayang Magiliw*' would be played in F1."

In the meantime, Enzo should stay within the top 3 in his class, he must do well at De La Salle University (taking up Consular and Diplomatic Affairs) and well, okay, he should also deal with such pleasant distractions as...girls.

At the end of our conversation, we asked him if he had been in any way traumatized in that accident when his car flipped after skidding in the rain-streaked track in Batangas. "Nah," he said in his soft manner, face creased in a modest smile.

"After that, I just became pretty good at driving in the rain. It's like driving on ice. You have to be one with the car. Imagine it's a dance; you have to move right, put your foot down at the right moment, get the right beat, the right tempo...there's a rhythm to everything."

You realize, to some people its not just a sport; its something akin to romance.

Reluctant thespian

PAOLO Pangilinan Valenciano started the interview adamant about one thing—"I don't like showbiz!" and reminded me to underline that same sentiment when we parted ways after an hour.

Yet, both his parents are steeped in show business. The eldest of top singing artist (and occasional movie actor) Gary Valenciano and the former Angeli Pangilinan's three children, Paolo is 17. Angeli was a pioneer member of that incomparable erstwhile music band Music & Magic. As head of Genesis Entertainment, she currently manages such showbiz celebrities like MTV videojock star, Donita Rose and Genesis' prime asset, her husband Gary Valenciano.

Paolo, whose good looks echo both his mom and dad's in equal parts, wants to make a distinction between show biz and what he's just got himself into: theater. He's just bagged the role of Peter (alternately with Franco Mabanta), one of the central characters in C.S. Lewis' "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe," to be staged in August at the Meralco Theater by Trumpets, Incorporated.

"I got into theater because I like acting a lot," said the strapping young man. To be more accurate, how he got into it was all because of his mom and various other instrumental people in his young life thus far, who has "forced" him out of his shell and into the wide wonderful world of the stage.

Out of his shell

Until he got out of his shell two years ago, he had been, by his own account, in the shadow of his two more outgoing siblings, 14-year-old Gabriel, a natural dancer who has performed onstage with famous dad Gary V. and sister Kiana, the youngest who has clinched prizes in school for her facility in singing.

PAOLO Valenciano

As Gabriel and Kiana began to shine, Paolo was inside his room, silent and wondering what he's all about as he whiled the time away watching TV and/or playing computer games within his inner sanctum.

He was 16 when he said his mom asked him to join Trumpets' summer acting workshop." His initial reaction was, "Duhhh...! Me? Act?! I wanted to be a pilot!" But mom won out and, as he put it, "She forced me to take up basic acting."

Self-discovery

As it turns out, what happened to him was that he was "coerced" out of his cocoon and into his journey of self-discovery. "Part of our class exercise was to act out something in front of my classmates; I'd do something and people were laughing and laughing and I really liked it! I liked the feeling!"

His heretofore ambiguous life took on a dramatic transformation as he uttered a line, made a face and elicited definite reactions from an audience before which he stood. It delighted him no end that he could actually move people.

The following year, he joined friends who enrolled in Trumpets' musical theater class. But he stayed at the back of the classroom, hoping he wouldn't be noticed because he was not sure if he could sing. His teacher, Chari Arespacochaga dispelled such doubts from his mind and insisted he could. One day, she came up to him and ordered him to sing. Even as he started to do so, she exhorted him to "inhale! inhale! diaphragm! diaphragm! She pushed my stomach inwards and indeed, I started to sing!" Off went Paolo, texting everyone, his mom and dad included, "I can sing! I can sing!"

Still, not even his moment of *eureka!* could make him readily obey his teacher Chari when she urged him to audition for the role of Peter in "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."

Two days were allotted for auditions. He didn't wake up in time on the first audition day.

Auditioning

Teacher Chari chided him, "You'll never get anywhere if you don't try!" Again, he allowed himself to be "forced" to his fate and on the second audition day, he joined close to 300 aspirants, including his first cousin and Human spokesperson KC Concepcion, who trooped to the Shangri-La Plaza to try out for the central roles, the siblings Peter, Susan, Edmund and Lucy Pevensie.

It was a very trying week for Paolo. "Everything was happening in one week: I was studying for my exams, I had to do a videotape presentation for my girlfriend's debut, I was doing rehearsals for a Trumpets' promotion and I was being asked to audition for 'The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe'—I had to finish all those in one week and I was trying to resist going to audition because I knew because of the pressure, I wasn't going to do well in the audition."

He was number 273 of 300 aspirants and when it was his turn to stand before Trumpets' top honchos, they stopped him before he could finish his audition piece. He was given a call-back slip, which meant coming back the next day for the elimination round. The following day's exercise started at 2 p.m. and ended at 8 in the evening. When the session ended, only a dozen—from about 40—souls were left in the room. As they were dismissed, they were told they would be called if they get the respective role they were aiming for.

Getting the role

Later on Paolo was having dinner with his girlfriend when Luna Inocian of Trumpets sent him this one-line text message, "Hi, Peter." He almost fell off his seat, hyperventilating.

The glee this young man so obviously feels in finally coming into his own—particularly in finally carving out an identity for himself—is so infectious that as he related all that has taken place in his young life thus far, our hour-long chat was peppered by boisterous laughter, both this writer's and the budding would-be thespian's.

Currently, the young man, an English Literature major in his junior year at the De La Salle University—busies himself with school, his studies and rehearsals at the Meralco Theater; whatever's left of his time is devoted to his girlfriend of one year and three months, Anna. He doesn't mind that people would know he has a special someone already; after all, he did say he's not the show biz type at all.

Paolo says he is considering a career in theater—at least, until he gets to play his all-time dream role—Joseph, in Joseph the Dreamer (his father played that role in the Trumpets' production of the musical) or when he reaches his mid-twenties when he figures he'd be ready to do the next big thing in his life, that is, be a film director. But for the moment, he's definitely stagestruck.

He talks about Peter Pevensie, the character he plays in the musical. He is comfortable in the role, he says, because of the many similarities he shares with Peter's characteristics. He is the reluctant leader and just like Peter, he is pushed into maturity by force of circumstance.

"Also," he points out," just like me, Peter is scared, cowardly, confused..." In the musical, Peter eventually conquers his fears and self-doubts and leads the Narnians to victory. Indeed, in many ways, the role seems to have been written with young Paolo in mind!

-Teddy Y. Montelibano

When children raise parents

BY BEA P. VALDES
Contributor

WHEN one is raised on Bible Stories and Dr. Seuss, a peculiar phenomenon of hybrid association occurs.

A flawed recollection of the miracle of loaves and one fish, two fish, red fish, blue fish, is attributed to unorganized childhood impressions indelibly stamped onto us. Just recently, having been asked if I was maternal, I blurted out, "I'm nocturnal."

Any teenager in the early '80s will recall how family values were served up with a lot of jazz on "The Cosby Show." Week after week, television's favorite family presented a plate of gravy and graduation. Misadventures were invariably resolved by spastic living room dancing. Between squeaky clean fun and good home cooking, Bill Cosby played out his philosophy: "Having a child is surely the most beautiful irrational act that two people in love can commit."

As that decade drew to an end, the nuclear family turned toxic. The Simpsons emerged as antithesis to the Huxtables. We began to acknowledge the precocious child, and its sibling, the little hoodlum. In truth, we also recognized the mother with frazzled hair, and the father of few words, plus bountiful flatulence. But "The Simpsons" is just a cartoon, a literal caricature of what happens when nobody wants to take out the moral garbage.

Today, we have the Osbournes. Few people can name any song that Ozzy sang, but how can anyone forget the decapitation of a bat with his teeth? The Osbourne children "raise" their parents in a maze of pubescent angst. The Duke of York once commented that it was amazing how progressive American Society had become, with parents trained to obey their children. Uncannily articulate about their emotions and definitive about the directions they want their parents to take for the future, the Osbourne kids seem to be extremely adult for their age. Which is why I actually think they are not children, but misplaced Oompa Loompas.

As head of the family, Bill Cosby sought to teach his children by example. In the parallel Land of Oz, Father expects kids to "learn from his mistakes."

"Don't do drugs! Look what happened to me, " Ozzy mumbles in one episode. He is in a daze, marooned in the couch. And then, still grappling with the weight of his words, and trying to figure out their implication, he gets up to feed the cat.

Genetically engineered anarchists

Ed Asner says raising children is "part joy and part guerilla warfare." The same might be said on behalf of children raising adults. It's pound for pound in a balancing act of love and labor. First, a child is taught to speak. Then parents suddenly lament they have genetically engineered a traditionally submissive species to become an anarchist, so they start teaching it to be quiet. When I engage my family in any form of constructive discussion, my sister, in her best Lauren Bacall impression, whispers into my mother's ear, "You should never have encouraged her to speak."

But speak children always will, and aloud, too. In this day and age, many of them communicate in an altogether new language, "Digitalian." A poll commissioned by Hewlett-Packard showed that 66 percent of 600 parent-respondents admit their children are more computer literate than they are. This is because the young have no fear of computers. Why? Children are "less self-conscious about making mistakes" and, unlike adults, they don't like the adults worry about damaging the equipment.

Elin Saltveit, an Oregon-based Computer educator, says most adults' thinking is linear. And computers, especially Internet sites, take us on non-linear, incongruous leaps. Kids can wander about in circles and twists, and still find their way back. This enables them to catch on to all the answers. Except that, for them, each answer is always a window to a new question. This grows exponentially until they begin to find the stuff that life is made of.

Myra Puyat-Santiago relates: " Kids are surprisingly aware of what's around them." Anton, her four-year-old has asked such questions as: "Who made God?" "What is evil?" "Why do people do bad things?" "Will I die?" On top of being stunned by the philosophical nature of these queries, she is befuddled: "Am I qualified to answer those questions? Maybe I should refer him to a priest or a psychologist." Every parent is judge, therapist, and navigator. They wind the children's heart springs and calibrate their emotional clockwork.

"Smart parents practice tough love. Smart parents are not necessarily someone who has a doctorate in Nuclear Physics. A smart parent is someone with a high EQ and who can understand and empathize and give emotional support," Myra muses.

We come from the stars

A physicist, Alan Lightman, recalls that as a child, he asked his parents, "Where did I come from?" They gave him a book "The Stork Didn't Bring You." Years later, he formulated another reply with a combination of wonder and science. All living matter is composed of a stew of hydrogen, carbon, oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus and sulfur. The origins of these elements are traced to cosmic naissance. To that tremendous question that children ask terrified parents—" Where do babies come from?"—Lightman's answer is: " They come from the stars."

Isa Lorenzo, a friend, explains that our generation is fortunate to have an abundance of choices. "We belong to a time when the options laid out before us are vast and time-specific." Isa, a graduate of medicine, is now taking a master's course in fine art photography. Her mother, she says, also went to med school and topped her University of the Philippines Class 1956, at a time when women were not inclined to be doctors. "Then she married my father, and courageously had eight children. She raised us all to the best of her abilities."

She continues: "Sometimes, I think that if she were of this generation, I would not have been born, given her options."

As Myra Santiago explains, being a parent has little to do with academic superiority as kids eventually prove to be smarter than their parents (they don't immediately let on). Adults are not meant to know all the answers. I have learned that many discoveries should be made by parent and child together. Proof: I now understand that the Caped Crusader chose Robin, the Boy Wonder, because "Batman and Herman, the Boy Genius" just doesn't sound right.

(Write your feedback to baileys_crayon@yahoo.com)

Celebrating Giordano

Opening one fashion outlet is certainly a feat in this day and age, but when you're opening your 42nd outlet, there's definitely cause for celebration. Invitational cocktails followed by a fashion show is GIORDANO'S way of commemorating the launch of its latest branch, a 170-plus-square-meter venue on the fourth level of The Podium an ADB Avenue, Ortigas. Renowned fashion choreographer Joey Espino puts the spotlight on Giordano's "stars"—blue jeans (in the popular low-rise, boot cut variety), cream-colored khakis, and neutral shirts and tops—while veteran commercial space designer Dennis Lao combined white walls, shiny aluminum panels, bright lights and larger-than-life posters of Giordano-garbed models to create a clean and contemporary ambiance in the Podium's spanking new interiors.

Actually, Filipinos were already celebrating Giordano's existence way before this milestone event. The opening of its first-ever outlet in SM City back in 1989 caused "pandemonium" among shoppers who couldn't get enough of the Hong Kong-based brand's casual apparel for men and women. And while the label has evolved in terms of its logos (progressing from the frog to the man to its current black-grey-and-white graphic print), Giordano has remained loyal to its signature look. "We're still the place for basic tees and jeans, whites and khakis, " says operating manager Joyce C. Sia. "Although we do have our icing styles and colors'—outfits that complement our usual styles—our basic items are in the store 365 days of the years."

It was in the early '80s when Giordano's founder stumbled upon the name" Giordano" on a napkin from a pizza while traveling in New York. The founder took the napkin home, passed it on to his marketing director and unwittingly created a byword simple, casual, everyday fashion. Giordano became a hit in the East-Asia Pacific and the Middle East, and entered Philippine shores in 1989 when the owners of Tokyo Fashion Boutique (TFB, Inc.) acquired the exclusive distribution rights to retail the label here.

As part of Giordano's international family, Giordano's Philippines fields a Merchandising Team to the label's four buying conferences abroad to pick out the items that will make it to the shelves of our stores. Having established what appeals to Pinoys (Sia observes that we're still a conservative market next to our trendier counterparts in Singapore or Hong Kong), the Merchandising Team comes up with a collection with approval from Giordano Hong Kong. The collections are updated with the latest in imported apparel and accessories for men, women and children every six weeks.

With Giordano's commitment to continuously supply shoppers with high-quality casual apparel and accessories that outlive trends and fads, it looks like Filipinos will be finding new reason to celebrate their favorite brand in the coming years. Sia promises even better silhouettes and fabrication in forthcoming Giordano's collections. "When you go to the office all week in a coat and tie, you just want to go to work in a nice woven shirt and jeans or chinos, the kind of clothes that can carry over to a party after work," says Sia. "Dressing down casually is what Giordano is all about."

SIMPLY GIORDANO

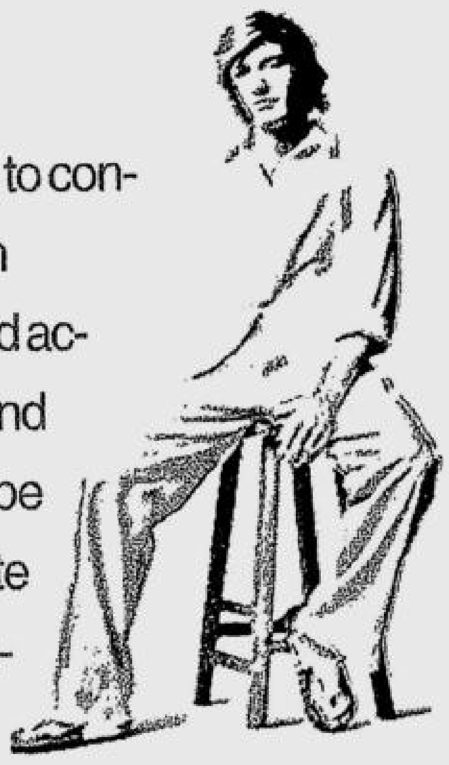
Uncomplicated styles and operations are the secrets of Giordano's worldwide success.

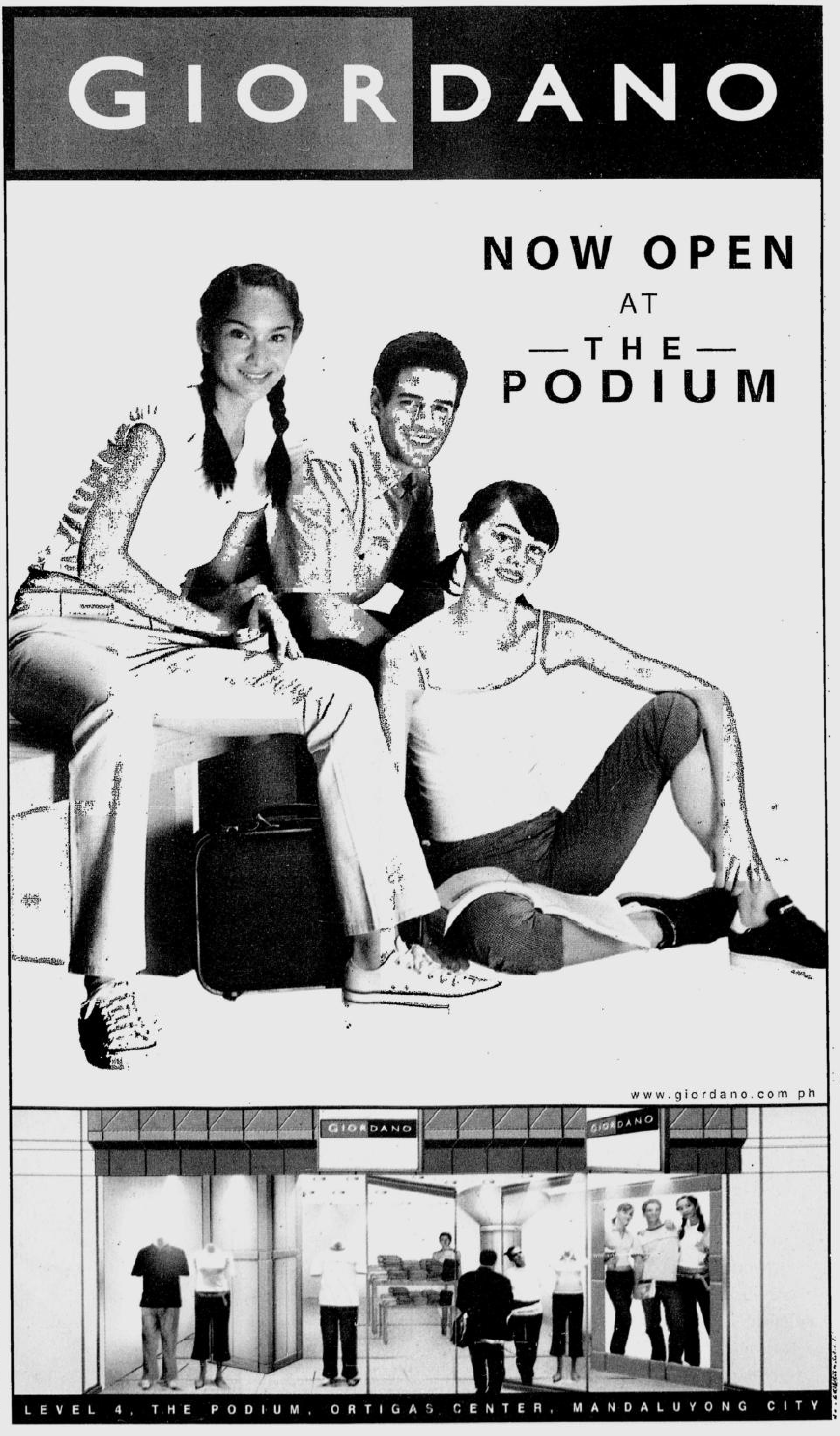
Offering upscale apparel for the working woman in nine specialty stores isn't Tokyo Fashion Boutiques only claim to fame. In November 1989, TFB, Inc. Corporation acquired the exclusive distribution rights to retail Giordano products in the Philippines. Then a widely known brand in the East-Asia Pacific, the Middle East and among traveling Pinoys, the brand took fashion-conscious Filipinos by storm when it made its commercial debut in SM City 13 years ago. Today, Giordano has a whopping 42 stores, the most recent of which is a 170-plus square-meter outlet at the fourth level of The Podium on ADB Avenue in Ortigas.

Knowing exactly what shoppers want explains Giordano's ability to endure in the fickle industry of fashion. Credit to an experienced Merchandising Team which chooses, during Giordano's four buying conferences abroad, the items that appeal best to Filipinos. The shop is so up-to-date, new apparel and accessories are introduced into the outlets every six weeks. "Each country comes up with its own collection with approval from Giordano Hong Kong, " explains operations manager Joyce C. Sia. "So you don't necessarily find the same products in all Giordano stores. Giordano Singapore, for example, is a trendier Giordano compared to Manila. Our shoppers are still very classic and conservative. " As always, Giordano's timeless jeans and tops are high on local buyers' lists, and thanks to a global "Simply Khakis" campaign, the demand for comfortable chinos has skyrocketed. "We're also known for our belts," adds Sia. "I've had customers come up to me and say, 'You know, I've had my Giordano belt for 10 years. 'It's true!"

Indeed, it's Giordano's downright simplicity—in color, style and operations—that ensure its place in Philippine retail fashion in the years to come. "Dressing down casually, " says Sia, "that's what Giordano is all about."

With Giordano's commitment to continuously supply shoppers with high-quality casual apparel and accessories that outlive trends and fads, it looks like Filipinos will be finding new reason to celebrate their favorite brand in the coming years





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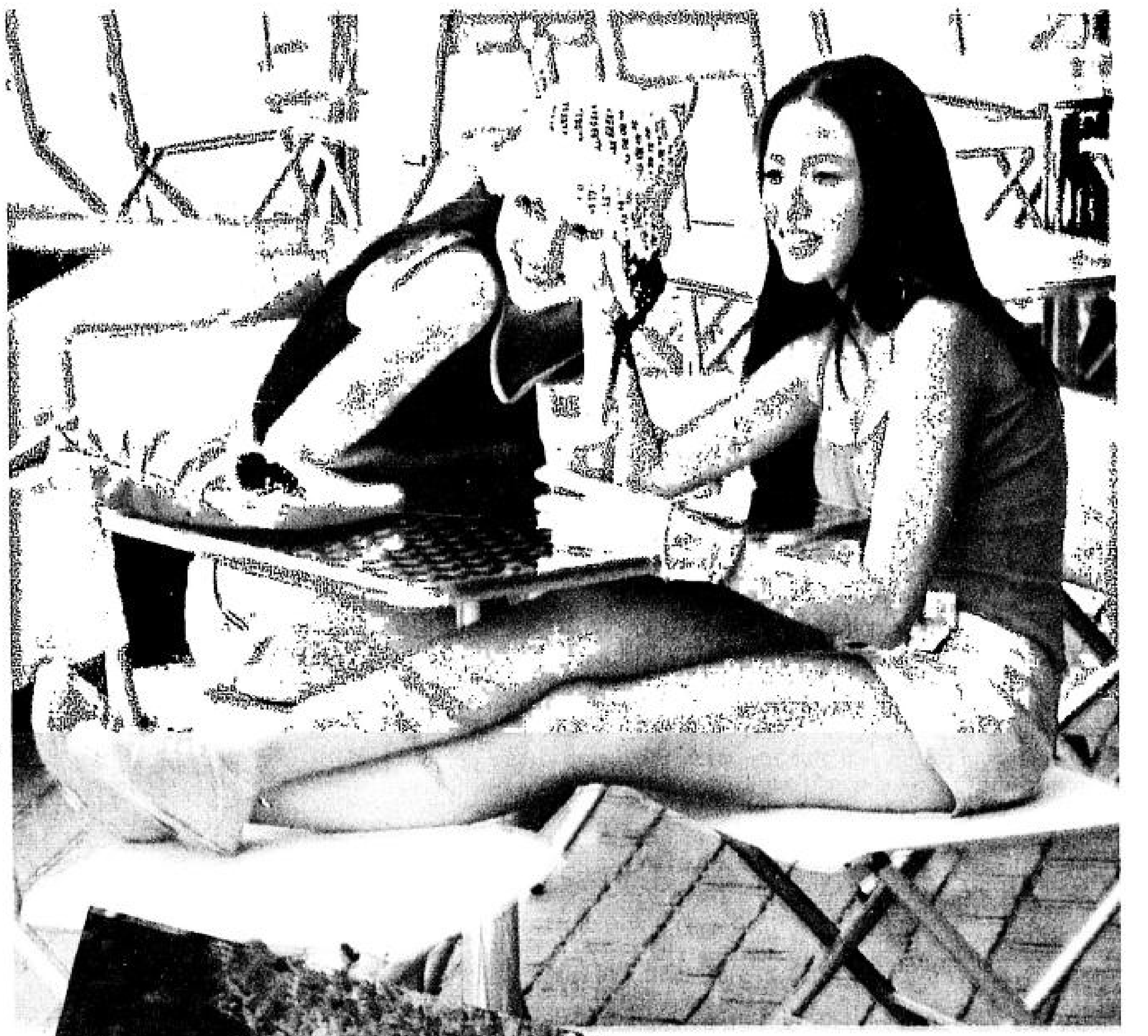

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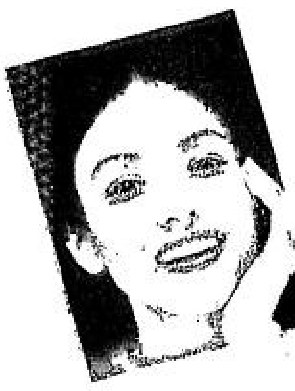


TO makeup artist Bobbi Brown, looking pretty isn't about polished makeup or outstanding physical attributes. She says that confidence, born out of a positive attitude, is the most convincing element of real beauty, and that makeup helps bring it out.

Brown has always worked on the unmade-up look. At the start of her career, no product looked "natural" enough. Meaning, nothing complied with her requirements towards that singular goal. Eventually, she collaborated with chemists and product colorists to help formulate the product that would lead to her vision: makeup for natural beauty. She started with lipstick shades close to the skin tone.

Her philosophy: "Keep it simple, real and approachable."

While most foundations and powders have pink undertones, Brown's makeup bases are tinted with yellow, which is more flattering to a woman's face. "Yellow-toned powders have a magical effect on the face, warming it and equalizing its hue with that of the neck, chest and hands."

According to Brown, the concealer is everything. "It brightens up the face and lifts the mood." Brown's concealer usually comes with a pale yellow powder that sets the base and diffuses the light. The foundation stick not only suits all skin types, but also works well as concealer.

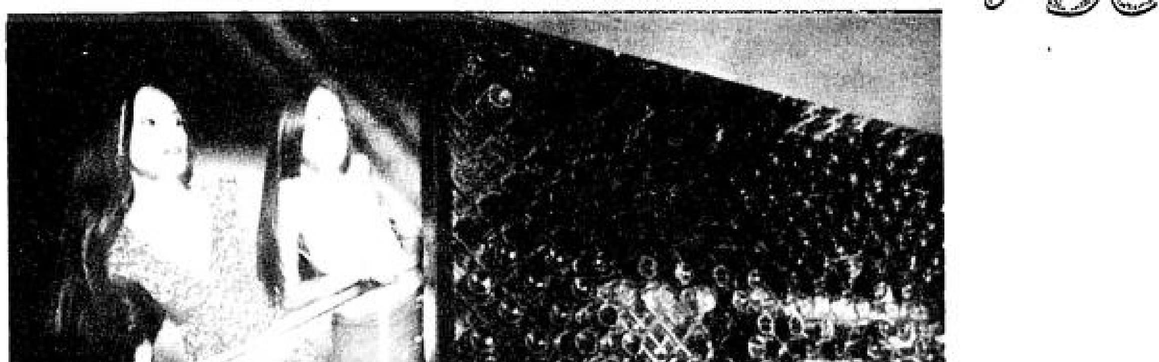
Another of Brown's unique products is the gel eyeliner, which provides a soft look. Unlike other liquid liners that take time to dry, the gel dries instantly and leaves no smudge. Applying the eyeliner at the top of the rim makes the lashes look fuller. The lip gloss draws light to the face and gives the impression of sexy lips.

Like most makeup artists, Brown insists on a clean skin. She recommends using a face lotion to prime the skin, and a hydrating face cream for smooth makeup application.

Ultimately, says Brown, beauty is best communicated through one's personality, ready smile, or physical energy. Usually, this translates to a certain special aura, grace or verve.

In sum, looking good could be simply enjoying, and expressing, your individuality.

Confidence that comes from a positive attitude is the most convincing element of beauty.



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By Cherish Garcia-Hernandez
Contributor
Photos by Chito Vecina
Pictorial Direction by Albert Avellana

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Being the premier launch venue for cutting edge wireless applications, The Hub recently introduced "Experience Mobile E-mail." This promo offers customers special packages and affordable rates on combined purchases of Globe Handyphone and Palm units.

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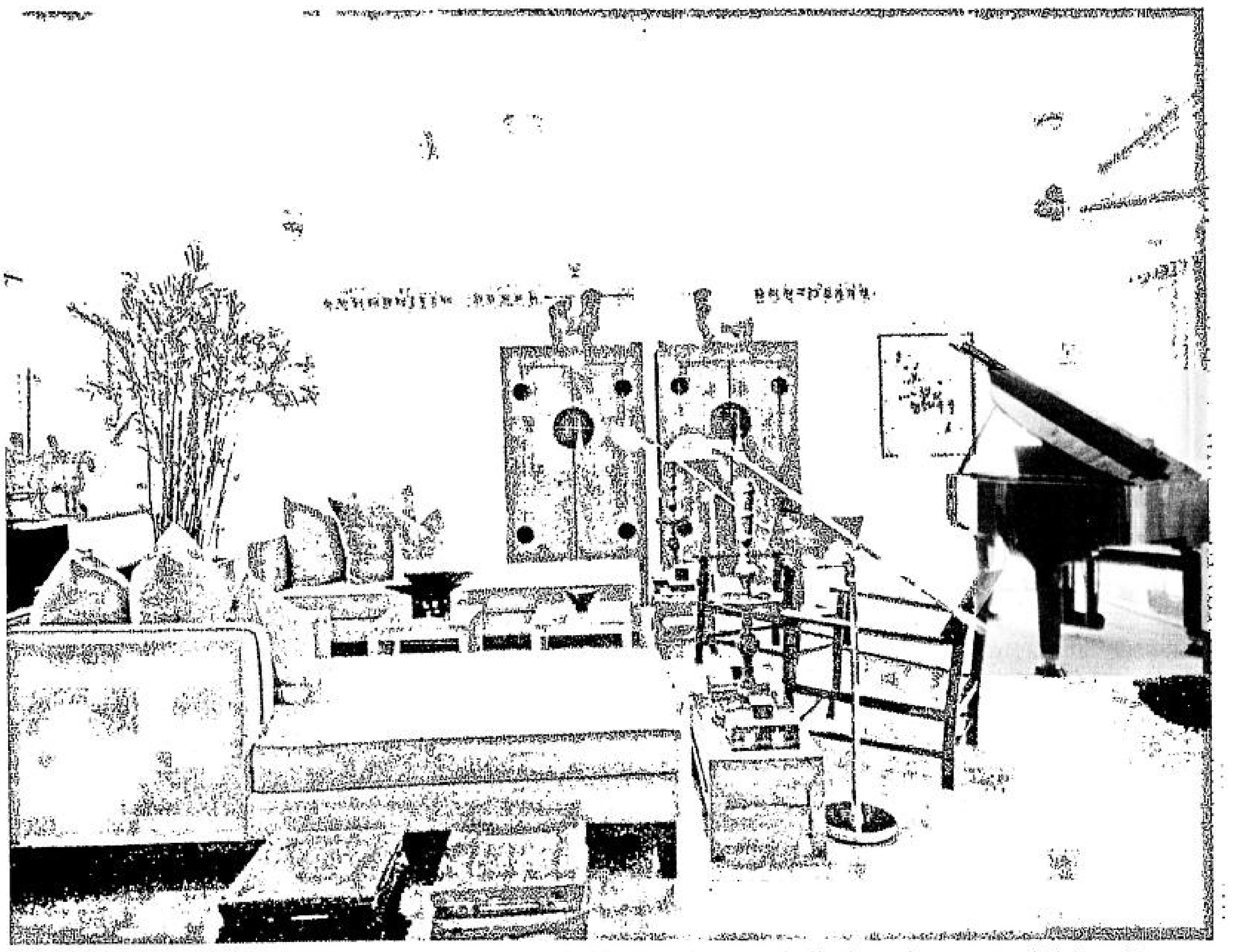
HOME is the traveler

Architect Conrad Onglao describes his 1950s bungalow as 'an experiment,' a 'laboratory' for his design leanings, possibly even for his life henceforth

By Avie Gochoco-Perez
Contributor
Photos by Benigno Toda III



FAVORITE spot in Onglao's house. Visitors are drawn to the warmth of the atmosphere as evoked by the earth tones, natural fabrics and the open seating arrangement.

IN his mid-40s, California-trained, high-profile and in-demand architect Conrad Onglao traded condominium living for a typical life in a house with a garden. This was upon the request of a son, the elder of two, who goes to boarding school next year. Dad had figured that bonding time might be over sooner than either of them could holler, "Wait!" He said, "Why not?"

And so it was that some eight months ago, Onglao moved to a 1950s bungalow in Makati. What he calls his "bachelor's pad" today has a swimming pool, and sits on 2,000 square meters of land. The color white dominates the property, from the gate to the bungalow, inside and out. An expanse of open space surrounds the main structure. The garden is strewn in places with stone Buddhas and what look like Balinese stone art pieces. But the grass does need trimming: lest one forget, this is a newly "singleton's" place. Or is leaving the garden to nature's caress really part of a plan?

When asked, Onglao describes his home as "an experiment," a "laboratory" for his design leanings, possibiy even for his life.

"What I have here is a mix of bits and pieces that I have," he says reluctantly. His demeanor betrays the little significance he attaches to these possessions.

"Some of them I bought from Pottery Barn, others from Rustan's," he says. "I am a simple person. I buy things for no reason other than I'm attracted to them, or it feels right. Ivy and I lived a particular lifestyle that I wouldn't call affluent, but one that enabled us to make inexpensive things stylish."

Coming home

"Ivy" is Onglao's ex-wife Ivy Almario. He describes her as an "excellent interior designer." His statements are sprinkled with "Ivy and I:" "Ivy and I grew together professionally." "Ivy and I looked at the silhouette, not the (commercial) value of things." "Ivy and I have the same approach to design." "Ivy and I tell the kids we are really just guardians of the talents and resources given to us."

Nine years ago, Onglao came home to the Philippines from Los Angeles, where he had spent 14 years of his life. A year later, second son Mikey was born. The boy is now eight years old. Recently, Ivy and her husband, along with Ivy's equally popular interior designer-sister Cynthia and her husband, had dinner at the "bachelor's pad." Architect and interior designer have become friends, and are into projects together. "I'm getting two for the price of one," a client once said, explaining his choice of the tandem for a restaurant project in Greenbelt 2.

The architect's move back to Manila was far from easy. His brand new Nissan Patrol was carnapped three months after purchase. When he wanted to buy a telephone line, he answered a newspaper ad. Later, he found that, had the transaction pushed through, he would have been left empty-handed. He was ready to throw in the towel after a year, but fate had other plans.

Much-respected modernist architect Lor Calma gave him this piece of advice: "Take whatever comes." Today, Onglao has the luxury of choosing his projects.

When people compliment him on his house, he is thrilled. But, if he could, he would have them know: "It isn't what makes me tick."

And what does? Well, a self-imposed year-long hibernation has made him realize some things. For one, "Happiness comes from within me, not from a relationship, not from the kids, not from work."

He has also come to believe that happiness comes from the giving of oneself to others. He is helping a soon-to-be-wed couple build a very modest first home. He prefers not to have information such as this on record, but it shows that not only the very wealthy could benefit from his design hand.

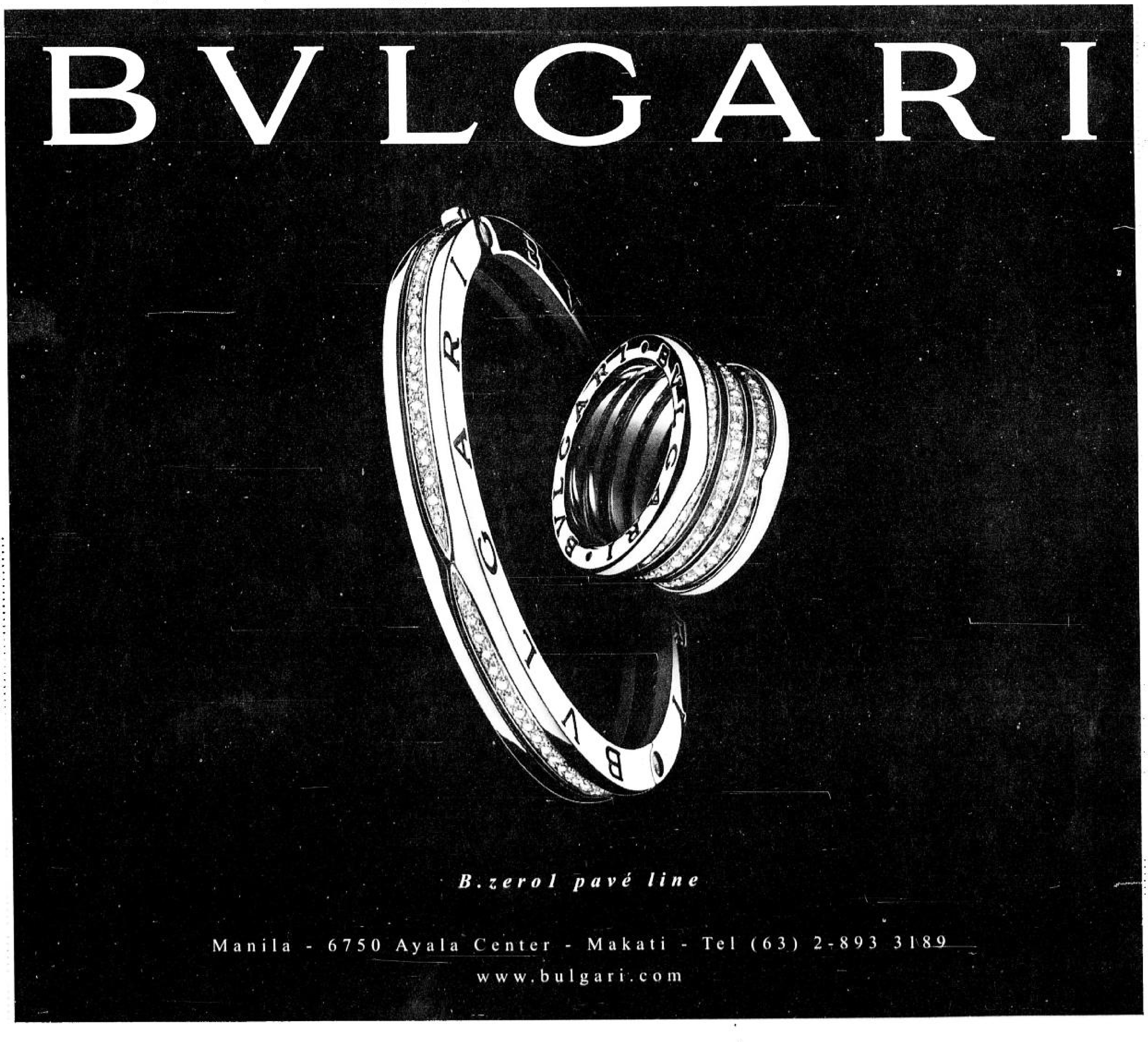
Home style

The color white is just the neutral canvas Onglao needs to highlight his beloved things in black, dark brown, terra cotta and soft *molave* yellow. These are the only other colors he allows to perk up the place—no reds, purples, pinks, blues or stark colors.

Floor-to-ceiling glass panels invite the outdoors into the bungalow. He learned appreciation for the open air in California, he says. He frowns on "mosquito screens" which impede natural ventilation, and iron grills which he sees as "fire traps."

One might sum up Onglao's style as clean-lined, balanced, symmetrical, calm, elegant, solid. Paintings on his walls consist a drama in black and white. On another wall are rows of same-sized, black-framed photographs of flowers, also in black and white. They were

HOME/D2



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SOLEIL Moderne's interiors reflect Greenbelt 2's style—high ceilings, sleek lines, and lots of natural lighting.

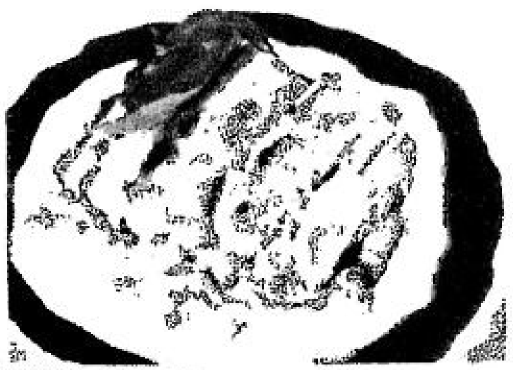
MAGNUM restaurant recreates the atmosphere of an Argentinean restaurant with storage for New World wines, wrought iron and faux leather furniture by Budji Layug and in the foreground, magnum-size bottles of wine.

Greenbelt 2:
New restaurant mecca

BY AMADO DORONILA
PHOTOS BY CHITO VECINA
PICTORIAL DIRECTION BY ALBERT AVELLANA

THE NEW food center at Greenbelt 2 is turning out to be the most exciting restaurant mecca in Metro Manila against the backdrop of the proliferation of fast-food cum shopping complex such as that at Rockwell's Power Plant and, more recently, at East Wood in Libis, Quezon City.

At Greenbelt 2, what's happening is not entirely more of the same or replication of franchised, old familiar names but a more selective conglomeration of medium to upper scale fine dining places. More familiar restaurants have transferred venue to the building, such as Italianni's, Sugi, and Minggoy's, with more to open on the ground level.


PORK a la maison

BRASSERIE mussels

What immediately caught my attention at Greenbelt 2 is the architecture that highlights expansive space and a path walk that reminds me of rue de Rivoli in Paris, near the Tuilleries Garden.

Wine-bar restaurant

Quite apart from the fact that Greenbelt 2 is very central in the Makati business district, two restaurants have been drawing crowds and defining the character of the new center. These are Magnum (#7573880), owned by the restaurant and wine entrepreneur, the Trillos, and Soleil Café Moderne, which is a rebirth but not a replica of the Soleil fine-dining restaurant on Pasong Tamo that shut because of its forbidding distance and isolation from mainstream traffic of people. But more of Soleil's resurrection later.

Magnum is altogether a new concept that differentiates it from Tita Trillo's other restaurants such as Pravda or even Wine Press. It is a place where food is as important as the drinks. Food has a distinct Argentinean accent and is built on a repertoire of grilled meat, chicken and seafood. It has a wide range of wines supplied by the parent wine shop, Anthony's, and the wine stock, inserted in shelves lining the walls, offers a large choice to complement the food. Browsing over the wine bottles is a pleasure in itself, given that the range embraces French, Italian, Australian, California, and Spanish, Chilean and, more particularly, Argentinean wines.

The menu is defined by what the owners describe as the concept that "revolves on simple grills of different cuts of meats whether, port chicken or beef," with a sprinkling of the harvest of the sea (*fruits de mer*, in French).

The Argentinean influence is pronounced especially in the sausages, which include *chorizo* (spicy pork with freshly cracked black pepper; pork sausage with garlic, rosemary, thyme and parsley; gaucho (beef with sweet paprika and chili; and provençale (pork with garlic and spice). The sausages are a good match to the reds. At the time I was there, the bar had open bottles of Australian Shiraz. Piquancy was the dominant flavor of the sausages—a Latin accent quite different from the tasty Hungarian sausages served in restaurants with traces of central European cuisine.

Any one with a more ambitious appetite may go for the main dishes, all grilled. There is no lack of US Angus or Australian steaks, stuff common in most restaurants, or lamb chops, chicken, tuna steak, salmon filet or Pacific prawns. The difference is that one has a good choice of side dishes to accompany the grilled meats, as well as sauces.

Among the side dishes are garlic rice, French fries with parsley and garlic, grilled assorted vegetables, sweet potato gratin, and creamed spinach. For sauces for meat, there are the usual béarnaise, pepper and mushroom sauce. For a change, I tried Chimichurri sauce with tenderloin, grilled medium rare. The sauce is made of Argentine spiced parsley and oregano sauce, which was very light. I liked the herbs and I wiped the sauce dry with bread. Sea food goes with a choice of sauces, among which are the classic Hollandaise, caper butter, cilantro-chili butter, and tomato, bell, pepper and cilantro salsa.

Even though the menu has an Argentinean accent, you will be disappointed if you ask for Argentinean beef, which is competitive against US Angus or Australian beef. Costs of importing Argentinean beef are prohibitive. Also, don't expect complicated dishes cooked with so many ingredients involving tedious process. Magnum's style is not fundamentally different from Filipino cooking, a large part of which, wherever your are in this archipelago, is cooked on the grill (*inihaw*).

Magnum begins to fill up after nine p.m. The clientele is heavy with expats, yuppie types and young people probably in their thirties and forties. The music is too loud, but the younger crowd did not seem to mind. It has two levels, has a casual atmosphere, and clients seem to be wine buffs and tend to take time with their food and their drinks.

The high ceilings, a feature common to restaurants in the building, give a sense of space and relaxation from cubicles that trap office holders in central Makati.

Soleil revived

A few doors away is Soleil Café Moderne (#7573600), aptly named to differentiate it from the defunct Soleil in the far and forlorn end of Pasong Tamo towards Edsa. In reincarnating Soleil, Markus Gfeller and his chef, David Pardo, revised completely the menu of the old restaurant and gave it a French accent reflected in the abundance of French titles. The atmosphere is also casual. The menu is quite long but for a starter, I asked for onion soup gratineé, which is basically a good test for a French restaurant. I was not disappointed. It had a good layer of Gruyere cheese and baked to a rich golden brown. We also had bay mussels baked with herb garlic butter.

GAUCHO sausages with Argentinean relish

For the main dish, we had, among other things, crispy duck confit, with a hint of fusion. It was marinated with an Asian concoction with glaze a l'orange. The duck was indeed, crispy, which is what matters, although I am no great fan of fusion which, if overdone, creates an identify crisis for food. Chilean sea bass is high on the list of Soleil Café, but the fish is so common place, like salmon, so we tried something else—Snapper Provençale (pan-fried fillet with tomato fondue) which everyone in our group liked.

I spotted on the menu *pot au feu*—in plain language, boiled meat and vegetables cooked the French way. It is made of beef, sausage and vegetable soup served with horseradish and mustard. It is a meal by itself. I like this dish commonly found in small French bistros after a long walk in an autumn or winter day in Paris. But *pot au feu* has to wait for another day.

Soleil's wine list includes a white merlot, a departure from the usual chardonnay or sauvignon blanc. We had a bottle and the reasonable price was a strong incentive to try it. It has a light pinkish color like rose, and for its price, it was a pleasant surprise. It was a perfect match with the food.

In front of these restaurants is space where food can be served in the open air, and I venture to predict that it will not be long before the customers would spill on to the outdoor facilities that can only enhance the ambience of the new complex.

> It's not entirely the same old familiar franchises, but a more selective cluster of medium to upper-scale fine dining

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Home is the traveler

(FROM PAGE D1)

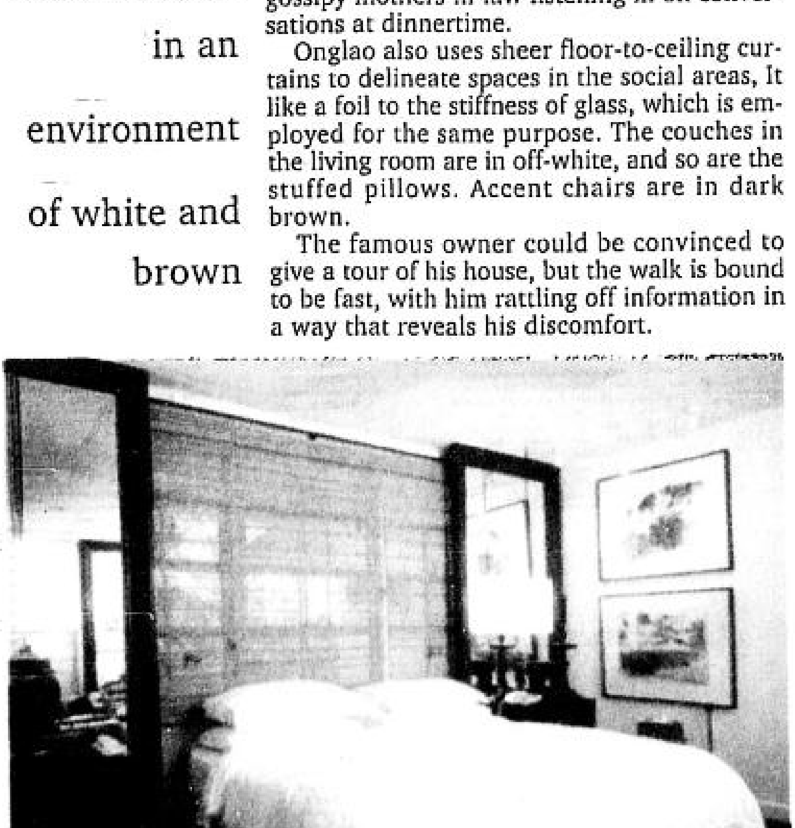
> After seeing color and prints all day, the owner finds comfort in an environment of white and brown

pages off a book, he lets on. Where colors other than black and white are shown in a painting, these are confined to his bedroom—as in a couple of his caricatures done by Bencab.

Five plump, three-foot high Chinese "fairies," all in terra cotta, stand gracefully—if a tinge whimsically—on a slab of *molave* in the casual dining room. With an expanse of glass that divides the bedrooms from the social areas below as backdrop, the fairies look like gossipy mothers-in-law listening in on conversations at dinnertime.

Onglao also uses sheer floor-to-ceiling curtains to delineate spaces in the social areas, It like a foil to the stiffness of glass, which is employed for the same purpose. The couches in the living room are in off-white, and so are the stuffed pillows. Accent chairs are in dark brown.

The famous owner could be convinced to give a tour of his house, but the walk is bound to be fast, with him rattling off information in a way that reveals his discomfort.


Master bedroom. Onglao's style is characterized by symmetry. The bed is flanked by tall framed mirrors, night tables and lamps.

He designed the unique upholstered seats in the formal dining room. Each one seats two people, but can be joined together to make a long, comfortable "bench" on either side of the table.

"The kids love to lie down there," Onglao says with a smile. He has covered one wall with dark-framed floor-to-ceiling mirrors, adding height to the room as the eye is repeatedly led upward. Balance and symmetry guide the placement of objects in this house. Very Kelly Hoppen? Very Ivy Almario.

Oriental influence

But one has to figure out all these things about the house. Onglao likes to talk only about his work, his kids, life, and art. Specifically, Filipino art, which has impressed him as "chaotic and busy," compared with the "calmness and harmony" of Japanese art, for instance.

He likes thanking people who have helped him along the way, including shipping heiress Doris Magsaysay-Ho, with whom he lived for six years, and who gave him the opportunity to use the California-style house de designed for her as a canvas.

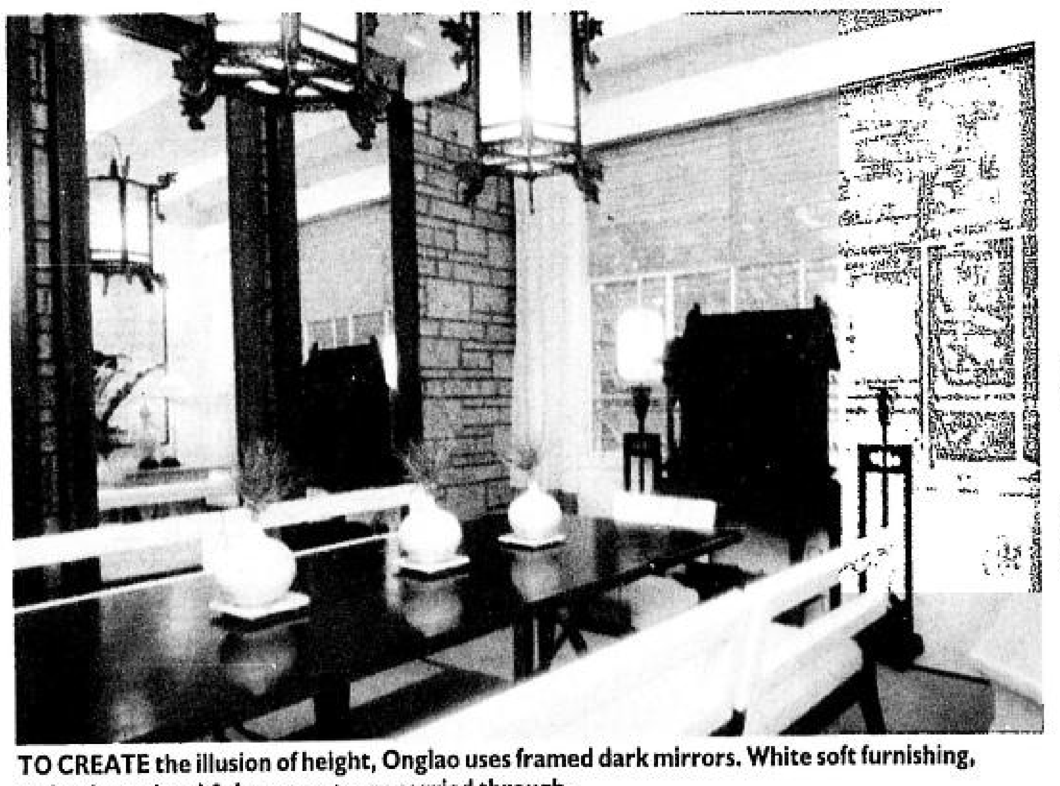
He recalls, "She told me there were moments she didn't know what I was doing, as well as times she did not agree with what I wanted. But, she said, she had to trust me." The house has been featured in Architectural Digest.

Onglao is humbled by the blanket trust given him by clients. Like Jaime Zobel de Ayala and his wife Bea: "They were going away for six months, and left everything to me. I could not disappoint them."

People assume he is "expensive." He thinks it's because of his clientele, and the size of his projects. "But, he says, "I treat all clients, and all projects big or small, with equal respect."

Being good

Onglao remembers a priest of the Opus Dei telling him what it took to be a good architect: travel. He took the advice and came back to the country 10 years later. The priest advised him to "travel some more."


TO CREATE the illusion of height, Onglao uses framed dark mirrors. White soft furnishing, stained wood and Asian accents are carried through.

Also, the priest told him, "To be good, get your feet wet, observe what is going on around you. Travel with your eyes, your senses. Open books, absorb a lot. Dedicate yourself to your profession."

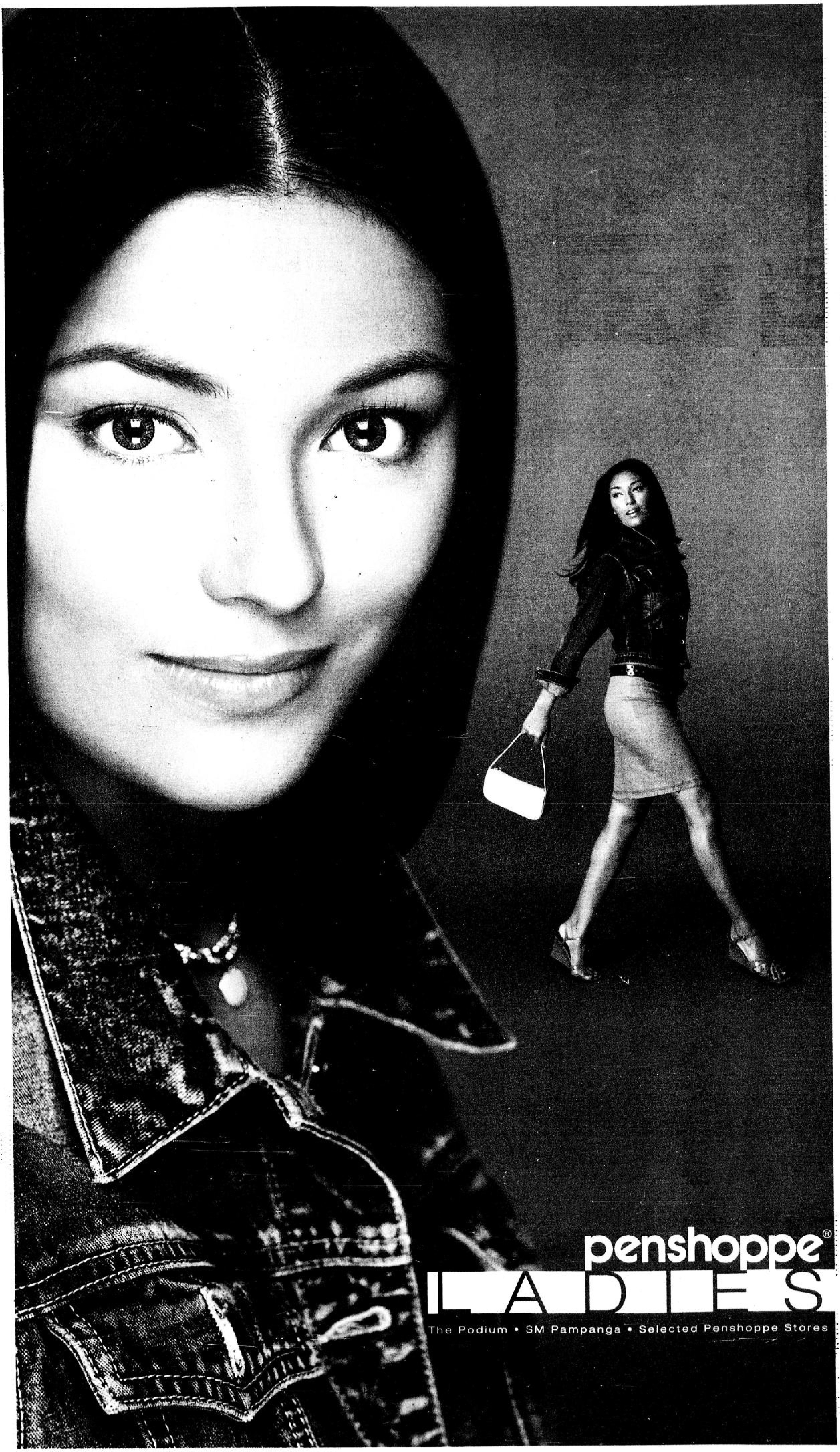
On his journeys, Onglao diligently takes pictures to help him remember what he has seen. He would like to instill in his staff this discipline of research. There is not enough reference to trends and styles in the latest books and magazines, he says. "They wonder, what's the secret?"

He notes that he and other architects who are big names today, such as Andy Locsin and Anna Sy, were all molded in the States and studied the same principles of architecture. "And yet, eventually, you find your own style as an artist."

And yes, because an architect *is* an artist, he can be the "lousiest" businessman. Onglao has no excuse. "I think it should be more an art than a business. If what drives you is the professional fee, you won't last."

This artist's eyes light up when eight-year-old Mikey comes bouncing to the food-laden table, and feasts on pizza. Clearly, Onglao dotes on the kid. "I work at being a good father, but I also make sure I pay sufficient attention to my work," he says. "It is always a balancing act."

He is looking for a piece of land where he can explore his gift for gardening, and where he can spend his future years in calm and, perhaps, anonymity. "In my next life, I just want to be a farmer," he says, only half-jokingly. Meanwhile, he has as many as 18 projects to finish around the metropolis. His design plate is full.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A dancer celebrates joy

BY MARGE C. ENRIQUEZ
PHOTOS BY WAHOO GUERRERO

Philippine ballet's Cecile Sicangco-Ibarrola says goodbye to performing, and hello to a full life ahead

THE forthcoming retirement of Cecile Sicangco-Ibarrola marks the end of a chapter for Ballet Philippines, the one that saw its rise to become one of the best companies in the region.

Cecile came from an era when dancers were personalities, not just strong bodies moving in space. It was also the time that BP changed its image from a modern dance company into a versatile ensemble that could do justice to classical ballet. Dancers shifted easily from the classicism and ethereal quality of "Swan Lake Act 2," into a dark heavy piece of modern dance by Norman Walker.

When she was in high school at St. Scholastica's, Cecile was admired for her natural qualities and beautiful lines. Although she had trained to be an optometrist in the States, when she came home, she was invited to return to BP. She had been gifted as it is with a strong, muscular body. Long hours of dancing and diligent weight watching made it perfectly proportioned. Stage lights can make a performer look 10 pounds heavier. But when the lights were on Cecile, her sleek, toned pysique was the envy of many.

She came to be known for her cool, detached and abstract qualities, which were perfect for modern ballet.

Trademark

Her signature number is "Au Fille des Mes Nuits," a sensual solo about a woman in the throes of passion on a moonlit night. Not every dancer is suited for that work, as it requires both sensuality and sophistication. William Morgan's pas de deux, "Nuances" had partner Brando Miranda lying on the floor, rotating like the hands of a clock while lifting the delicate Cecile who was also in a horizontal position. Because of her solid classical training, Morgan entrusted her to restage his "Classical Symphony."

Cecile was lucky that the company had been stocked with substantial roles for her, even if she was older than the other dancers. But she had also worked with the best foreign teachers and guest artists, and collaborated with top Filipino choreographers when they were just starting out in their careers. And so she possessed a depth of understanding in dance that the younger ones still had to develop. Choreographers have always raved about her cool intelligence and quiet strength that came across as she performed.

Who can forget her performance as Giselle, when guest artist Julio Bocca carried her across the stage as if she were walking on ether? Who can forget her wispy enchantress in Agnes Locsin's "Encantada," or her sensual but angst-ridden lover in Denisa Reyes' "Love Lies Bleeding," or her remarkable clarity and lyricism in "Te Deum?"

But believe it or not, her best dancing that I ever saw was from a video taken at a party by a student of Cecile's Pilates studio. Dancing with the ever reliable and chivalrous Brando, Cecile was all smiles even as she took a dangerous backbend from a lift.

Unknown to many is Cecile's gift for teaching. I remember taking a visiting choreographer to watch company rehearsals. Always well-dressed and made up, Cecile was showing her scholars how to use the muscles correctly in executing a step. The American visitor was impressed with the way she paced the class, and the way she communicated technical language so the dancers could understand it.

Gift and responsibility

Teaching is a gift and responsibility. Not all dancers have the patience to conduct drills. While she was still in the company, Cecile had gone to New York to become an accredited instructor of Pilates, a physical conditioning exercise that aim sprimarily to strengthen the center of the body and develop the art and discipline of muscle control with very little effort.

Without any publicity, Cecile started her Pilates studio, working with dancers. After exposure in the INQUIRER in 1998, her list of students has been endless. Since then, there have emerged other kinds of Pilates and Pilates-based programs in the Philippines.

Cecile is unfazed by competition. Teaching a regimen can be tedious or wearisome after a while, but Cecile has never lost her enthusiasm even if she handles eight to 10 clients a day. She explains that every body is unique, and has its own strengths and weaknesses. Her job is to create the balance of a healthy mind and body. Patience, after all, has always been one of her greatest virtues.

Because of the increasing demand to expand her Pilates Studio, Cecile felt it was time to retire from ballet. Pilates had opened a whole new world for her. Her clients adore her, which is why they are sponsoring her last show "Joie de Danse," tomorrow, 6 p.m., at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. Many have benefited from her gift and dedication. This is their way of saying thanks.

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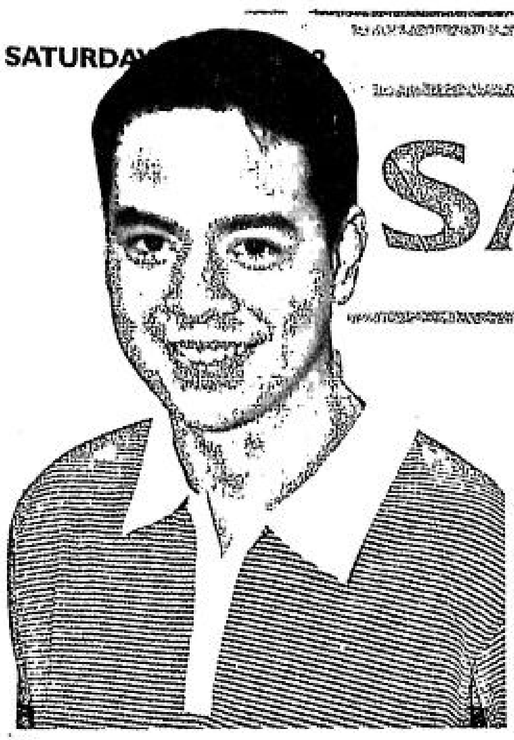


CRUZ. Never imagined getting this close to stardom.

John Lloyd Cruz gets his biggest break

By Jocelyn Valle

WHEN well-regarded film and TV director Olivia Lamasan (who's at the helm of "Kay Tagal Kang Hinintay," along with Laurenti Dyogi) was asked, during the presscon for Channel 2's new *teleserye*, "Kay Tagal Kitang Hinintay," why she chose John Lloyd Cruz to essay the role of the lost son of Lorna Tolentino's Lorrea character, she replied with certainty that the young actor was a fine actor.

"*Gusto kong maiyak sa tuwa*," recalls John Lloyd about how he felt at that moment. After all, Lamasan, who's fondly called Inang by her coworkers, has worked with some of the country's best performers, including Aga Muhlach, Richard Gomez, Sharon Cuneta and Christopher de Leon.

Roster

As part of the think tank of ABS-CBN's film outfit, Star Cinema, she's also familiar with the network's extensive roster of young talents. Lamasan was the first to challenge the thespic talents of Marvin Agustin and Piolo Pascual (who were then stuck in teenybopper roles) when she directed them a few years ago on Star Cinema's TV production of "Sa Sandaling Kailangan Mo Ako."

John Lloyd shares that he never imagined being this close to stardom. In fact, he didn't want to be an actor when he was younger.

Talent scout

Five years ago, however, a talent scout approached him while he was in a mall with his mom. He wanted to turn down the invitation to appear on TV but his mother got excited and he eventually said yes.

He soon found himself playing a role in a drama segment of "Compañero y Compañera." More acting chores followed, but he recalls not being happy with TV work.

One particular taping day for a drama program tested his patience. "*Umalis ako sa set sa sobrang tagal* (for his scenes to be shot)," John Lloyd shakes his head in disheartened recollection.

However, before he could hoist the white flag of surrender, ABS-CBN's Talent Center held an audition. After two months, John Lloyd signed up with Johnny Manahan's group as a member of Star Circle, Batch 5, and his fate dramatically changed.

JOHN/ p. E2

Ryan Gosling bats for stardom

SHOW BIZ Q & A

Rito P. Asilo

THIS week's Q and A:

"I am a fan of Ryan Gosling. I haven't seen him since "Young Hercules" went off the air two years ago. Please tell me more about him." - *Vanessa, Binan, Laguna*

After appearing in 1996's "Frankenstein and Me" and in "Remember the Titans" (with Denzel Washington), Gosling's depth and intensity as an actor have been turning heads.

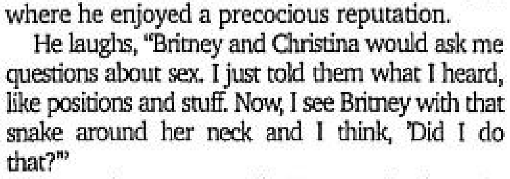
Scrawny

He recalls, "I always wanted to entertain. When I was six, I was very scrawny, and I'd get into my red Speedo and do muscle moves. I thought I was muscular, and didn't know everyone was laughing at me." He was in the MMC show with Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, Justin Timberlake, and Keri Russell ("Felicity"), where he enjoyed a precocious reputation.

He laughs, "Britney and Christina would ask me questions about sex. I just told them what I heard, like positions and stuff. Now, I see Britney with that snake around her neck and I think, 'Did I do that?'"

Ryan sings very well. He sang back-up in Canadian boy band Soul Decision's single, "Feelin' You," the fourth track of the trio's 2000 album, "No One Does It Better." He also

RYAN/ p. E2



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Register	REG <name>/<add>/<age>
Get the game intro	[illegible]
Get your mission briefing	[illegible]
Learn the scoring system	[illegible]
Get an update on points	[illegible]
Read a background on each character	[illegible]
Check number of contest entries	[illegible]
Start or restart the game	[illegible]
Continue the game	[illegible]
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SATURDAY*Special*

CRUZ. Never imagined getting this close to stardom.

John Lloyd Cruz gets his biggest break

By Jocelyn Valle

WHEN well-regarded film and TV director Olivia Lamasan (who's at the helm of "Kay Tagal Kang Hinintay," along with Laurenti Dyogi) was asked, during the presscon for Channel 2's new *teleserye*, "Kay Tagal Kitang Hinintay," why she chose John Lloyd Cruz to essay the role of the lost son of Lorna Tolentino's Lorrea character, she replied with certainty that the young actor was a fine actor.

"*Gusto kong maiyak sa tuwa,*" recalls John Lloyd about how he felt at that moment. After all, Lamasan, who's fondly called Inang by her coworkers, has worked with some of the country's best performers, including Aga Muhlach, Richard Gomez, Sharon Cuneta and Christopher de Leon.

Roster

As part of the think tank of ABS-CBN's film outfit, Star Cinema, she's also familiar with the network's extensive roster of young talents. Lamasan was the first to challenge the thespic talents of Marvin Agustin and Piolo Pascual (who were then stuck in teenybopper roles) when she directed them a few years ago on Star Cinema's TV production of "Sa Sandaling Kailangan Mo Ako."

John Lloyd shares that he never imagined being this close to stardom. In fact, he didn't want to be an actor when he was younger.

Talent scout

Five years ago, however, a talent scout approached him while he was in a mall with his mom. He wanted to turn down the invitation to appear on TV but his mother got excited and he eventually said yes.

He soon found himself playing a role in a drama segment of "Compañero y Compañera." More acting chores followed, but he recalls not being happy with TV work.

One particular taping day for a drama program tested his patience. "*Umalis ako sa set sa sobrang tagal* (for his scenes to be shot)," John Lloyd shakes his head in disheartened recollection.

However, before he could hoist the white flag of surrender, ABS-CBN's Talent Center held an audition. After two months, John Lloyd signed up with Johnny Manahan's group as a member of Star Circle, Batch 5, and his fate dramatically changed.

JOHN/ p. E2

Ryan Gosling bats for stardom

SHOW BIZ Q & A

Rito P. Asilo

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RYAN/ p. E2

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Raffle draw: August [illegible] 2002

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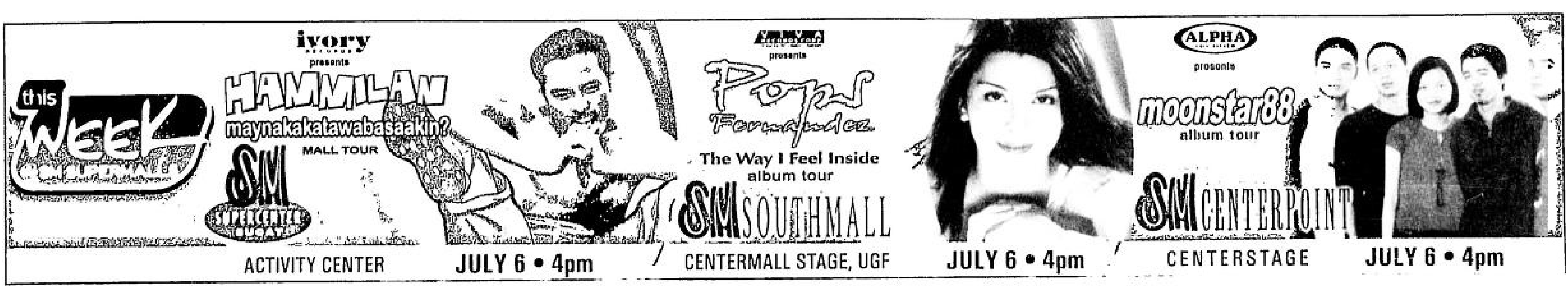

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Encore for 'Illusione'

BAHAGHARI Productions' hit impersonation show, "Illusione," will move over to the Star Theater at the CCP Complex starting Aug. 16.

The show has captivated audiences with its dazzling production numbers showcasing the talents of fine impersonators who bring international singing stars to "life" on the local stage.

Among the revue's most-applauded numbers are its Black Divas Medley and Broadway Suite. At Star Theater, new characters will be introduced—Marilyn Monroe, Chaka Khan, Barbra Streisand, Liza Minnelli, and a drop-dead Zsa Zsa Padilla.

Other show dates are Aug. 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31 and Sept. 1. "Illusione" will also be performed in Davao City on Aug. 2,3 and 4, in Cebu City on Aug. 10 and 11, and in Pampanga on Sept. 6 and 7. Call 689-0990.

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

Feedback

From Rupert S. Pepito Jr.: (excerpts):

"When Lea Salonga guested on 'S.O.P.' last June 9, I noticed her indifference towards Regine Velasquez. Ms Salonga was featured as the main artist in the back-to-back segment of the show. Ms Velasquez sang first. Ms Salonga did not applaud. I thought that, in theater fashion, she was reserving her applause after the end of the segment. On the other hand, it could also be understandable since I myself found Regine's interpretation uninspired.

"Mr. Alcasid or Gibbs sang next. Ms Salonga applauded after every performance of the rest of the group. Was it a statement, I mused? Or was the next segment? The group circled around Ms Salonga after another solo rendition to express intense admiration. Again, I noticed she avoided looking at Ms Velasquez. Ms Velasquez thanked Ms Salonga but this didn't merit acknowledgement from the latter.

"I deduced, between the two, one doesn't like the other. I would not probe further why, that's beyond my concern. But what bothered me was the absence of plain courtesy. I might not be a world-class talent, but I maintain that prestige and excellence do not license anyone to dispense hostility. Humility is what it should engender. Ever wonder why so much is expected from those who have much?"

PPO at Mt. Carmel

The Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra will perform at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine-Parish in New Manila, Quezon City at 8:30 p.m. on July 10. This is one of the highlights of the parish's week-long fiesta celebration, culminating in the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on July 16.

The PPO's repertoire includes Tchaikovsky's "Cappricio Italian," Rossini's "William Tell Overture," and "Ugby ng Duyan" by San Pedro and Celerio.

Other highlights of Mt. Carmel's fiesta celebration: July 7—start of novena masses; Novo Concertante Manila concert. July 9—night for fathers and mothers in preparation for the Congress of Families. July 13—novena mass to be celebrated by Bishop Rolando Tria Tirona; fellowship night. July 16—Fiesta Day mass to be celebrated by Bishop Socrates Villegas, Followed by a procession. Call 724-5938.

ILLUSIONE'S "Zsa Zsa Padilla."

NU 107 at the malls

NU 107 invades the malls with music performed live by the hottest bands. Performance schedule: Today, July 6, Robinson's Metro East with Ciudad and Eraserheads. July 12, SM North Edsa Entertainment Plaza with Imago and Itchyworms. July 27, Alabang Town Center with Rayyn and Cynthia Alexander.

All shows start at 4 p.m. and will be broadcast live over dwNU 107.5 FM.

Third monthly finals

At 8 tonight, "Star for A Night" will hold its third monthly finals. The weekly winners competing for the top monthly plum are—

Kristela Cristobal, 1 14-year-old high school student. Jerovin Marasigan, a 12-year-old singer and dancer. Marjorie Inumerable, 16, who played the title role in the remake of "Trudis Liit." And Almira Cercado, 13 years old.

Judges tonight are Claire de la Fuente, Lizza Nakpil, Civ Fontanilla and Randy Santiago.

Vocation discernment seminar

The Order of Discalced Carmelite fathers and brothers (OCD) is conducting a Vocation Discernment Seminar (Search-In) for male college students and young professionals (21-35 years old) every Sunday this month at Mt. Carmel Shrine-Parish, New Manila, Q.C.

For details, call 412-5173, email at joboyocd@skyinet.net or visit the website at www.ocdphil.org.

Calvin at Country Waffles

Every Friday this month, Calvin Millado sings at Country Waffles. Calvin's repertoire includes "Someone to Watch Over Me," "Stardust," "The Way You Look Tonight," "This Is the Moment," "What Matters Most," "You" and "I'll Always Stay in Love This Way."

On July 28, Calvin will grace the launch of Diabetes Awareness Week at the Glorietta in Makati.

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John . . .

From p. E1

Depressed

He also made a few movies with his Koolits colleagues like Baron Geisler. However, when his latest film outing, "Mahal na Kung Mahal," didn't do well at the tills, the young star got depressed.

John Lloyd was reportedly about to join Channel 7 when the offer to move to the star-studded and expensive "Kay Tagal Kitang Hinintay" came.

He therefore points out that bagging the biggest break of his life is not a fluke. He believes that it's the product of his hard work and perseverance. "I've gone through a lot of struggles," he says in reflection. "I just held on tightly."

Though he's now feeling the pressure of proving that he is indeed Channel 2's perfect choice, John Lloyd tries to parry off the negative vibes and just "seizes the moment."

Ryan . . .

From p. E1

released a single, "Put Me in the Car," where his crooning sounds like Shawn Mullins'. AJ McLean once tried to recruit him for the Backstreet Boys.

He was recently featured in the June 2002 issue of Vanity Fair (with Reese Witherspoon on the cover), and in the June 17 issue of US Weekly, in an article which revealed that he was dating 37-year-old Sandra Bullock, his co-star in "Murder by Numbers.".

This appears to be true. On May 23 at the recent Cannes filmfest, he was photographed holding hands with Bullock on a private balcony of the Eden Rock Hotel. In an interview, he says, "Don't say I'm sweet on her. Say I'm taken with her."

But the scene in "Murder by Numbers" would probably say it all—the strange and sexy moment when his charismatic character pinned Bullock against a car and licked her face! The tongue action wasn't even in the script. Gosling came up with the idea, and the effect made our skin crawl. Apparently, it pleased Sandra more than it scared her.

Paula . . .

From p. E4

completes its run. What she looks forward to is enrolling to become a veterinarian.

"I've loved animals ever since I was a child. Whenever I bring my pet dog to a vet, I closely observe how he is being treated. Dogs are the most caring and loyal pets. My dog knows what time I come home and shows his joy the minute I open the door. He shows signs of restlessness too whenever I go home late," she says.

Voice lessons

Paula says she likes singing better than acting. For this reason, she took voice lessons under Ryan Cayabyab. She gets to display her singing talent whenever she guests on variety shows on Sundays. She would like to record an album.

She was amused when told that a producer was planning to cast her and Rica together in a movie where she will also be required to go "daring."

She stressed that one boldie in the family is enough. "Besides, *wala akong K dahil hindi ako kasing seksi ni ate,*" she exclaims.

Paula is a product of Star Cricle, Batch 4, and among her batchmates are Dominic Ochoa, Kristine Hermosa and Nikki Valdez.

Musical . . .

From p. E4

maining unique at the same time. The sequencing of the compositions follows a day in the life of a person, with occasional pieces that are distinctive in that they are not intended to embody a certain time of day, but are nevertheless suited to that period.

These compositions include "Dreamscape," "Morning Prayer," "Landscape," "The Swan (from "Carnival of the Animals" by Camille Saint Saëns), "Lion Heart," "High Noon," "Struggle," "Seascape," "Prayer at Sundown (from the Humming Chorus of "Madame Butterfly" by Giacomo Puccini)," "Waiting," "Dusk," "Twilight," "Sa Ugoy ng Duyan (by Lucio San Pedro)," and "Slumber."

All of these were composed or musically arranged by Pacis, except for "Struggle," "Prayer at Sundown," and "Slumber," which were worked on by Rayben Maigue. *(To be concluded)*

RP-BURLINGTON Youth Team Officials. Standing, 2nd Row, L-R: Jun Lavadia, Ching Ching Marcelino, Boy Codiñera, Johnny Tam, and Rene Bayna. Sitting: Graham Lim, Atty. Bonifacio Alentajan, Christian Tan, Ruddy Tan.

Burlington makes National Youth Team's dream come true

STREET SMART

Mandy Navasero

THE RP Burlington National Youth Team is a dream fired by hope. The junior players, ages 15 to 18 years old, from different schools all over the country will represent the Philippines in the South East Asian Basketball Association (SEABA) Junior Championship to be held in Malaysia later this month. If they bag either first or second place in this competition, they will be eligible for the Asian Basketball Confederation (ABC) games to be held in Kuwait next December.

Torchbearer

"Team Philippines" has been the torchbearer of a glorious tradition in the junior league dating back to 1970. Remember the legendary Bogs Adornado, three-time Most Valuable Player (MVP) awardee of the Philippine Basketball Association (PBA) in his halcyon days?

Fielding a team for overseas leagues is a saga fraught with obstacles, foremost of which is logistics. A third world country such as ours has more pressing priorities than sports to attend to.

The Basketball Association of the Philippines (BAP), led by its president, Tiny Literal and secretary-general, Graham Lim, sounded the alarm for immediate corporate support. It took visionary companies like Burlington Industries Philippines, Inc. to push the team's aspirations beyond the realm of dreams.

Upon learning that a benefactor was needed to put up the junior team, Burlington rose to the occasion without fanfare. The owners of the company, led by its president, Pete Tan, have kept their patriotic fervor alive even through trying economic times.

Corporate commitment

Prime example of this corporate commitment is the airing of the award-winning Burlington Basketball Tips as part of the PBA T.V. coverage from 1986 to 1990.

Burlington has also supported tennis, softball, cycling and grassroots sports.

Ruddy Tan, general manager of the company, attends not only games but also practice sessions whenever he can.

He gives pep talks to boost the boys' morale and remind them of their goals.

Burlington and the BAP have also lined up outreach projects for the youth team, such as helping build homes for the urban poor, teaching streetkids the fundamentals of the game, and supporting environment-friendly groups.

***

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flavor blend:
combine 1 tsp of rock salt, pepper, sugar and 1 tbsp hot sauce

Combine chopped SABA SQUID, onions, calamansi and flavor blend. Heat oil on sizzling plate or skillet. Stir fry the sisig to desired crispiness. Top with chilis and serve immediately.

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The Practical Cook

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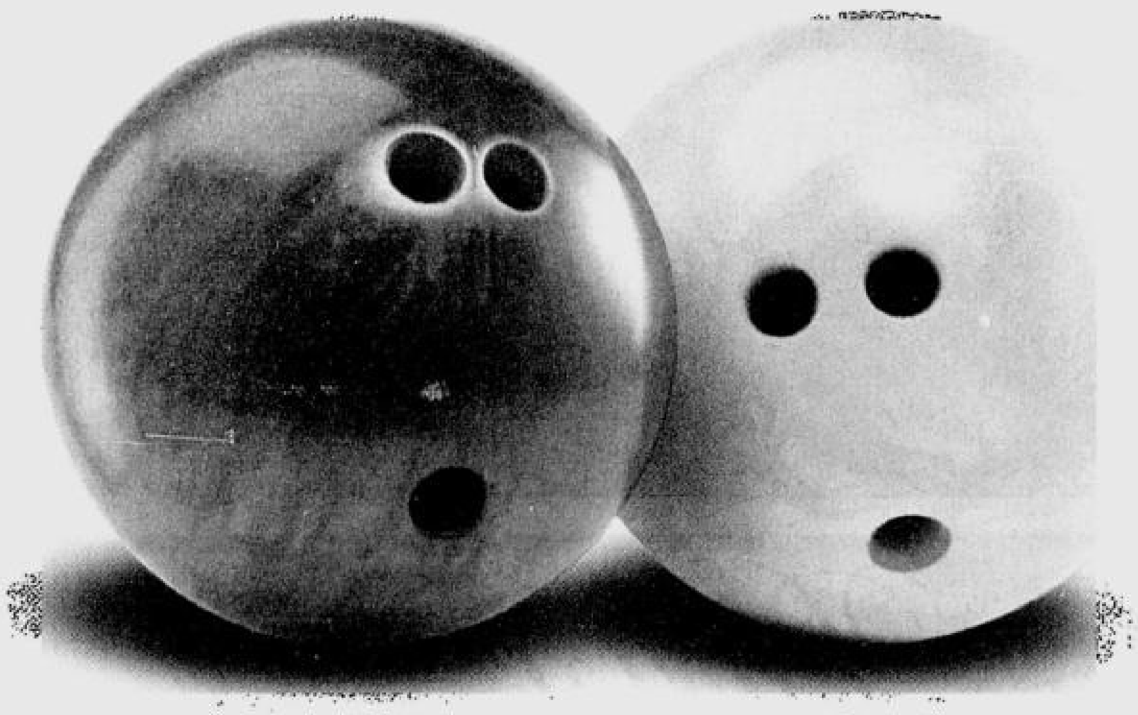

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2500 Series of 2002

Paula, the other Peralejo, comes into her own

By Remy M. Umerez

NO two sisters are alike. On and off the screen, Rica Peralejo looks and acts the same. Paula on the other hand is more beautiful in person than in the photos handed us during the presscon of the *teleserye* "Tanging Yaman, the Series."

It is not only in physical attributes that the two sisters differ. Paula is more low-key in her acting career.

Acting would probably come last among her priorities, which include finishing a college course, singing and traveling.

TV exposure

Her television appearances doesn't come that often, mainly because she only want to do roles she believes she will enjoy portraying. The longest television exposure she had was in "Tabing-Ilog," which lasted for four years.

PAULA. Animal lover.

Her boyfriend doesn't come from show business, and Paula prefers it that way.

"Show biz doesn't give you enough space to be with the man you love. I might as well not enter into a relationship if I cannot devote time to the man I would marry someday. This is probably the reason why I am not like my sister, who is career-driven. *Ang sa akin, kung ano lang ang* offer *na dumating at maganda," she says.*

Initial episode

In the drama anthology "Tanging Yaman," a collection of stories centering on the family, Paula joins the company of Marvin Agustin and Danilo Barrios in the initial episode titled "Muling Buksan ang Puso." She plays Melissa Espiritu, the pampered daughter of Michael de Mesa and Amy Austria. When the family experiences hardships, she agrees to have herself adopted.

Paula is not worried if she will not have an immediate assignment after "Muling Buksan ang Puso"

PAULA/ p. E2

God smiles

FACE TO FACE

Inday Badiday

INDULGE me. I'm in one of those strange, reflective moods again when disparate, disjointed thoughts create in my mind a stream of consciousness, thoughts that don't seem to connect but are actually just different threads woven together in the same tapestry called life.

Forms

When I was being admitted to the hospital, I asked Clara to fill up all the necessary forms. She kept asking what my age was. I glared at her. I had to threaten her that I'd rather go back home than reveal to her the pearl in my oyster of secrets.

"I'd rather die than tell anyone that," I muttered to myself. Of course, I didn't realize then that God heard and almost took me up on that—because soon after they wheeled me to my hospital room, I lost consciousness, collapsed, and went to la-la land.

Basement

There was a time in my life when I seriously wondered aloud what I should do about the big cartons of Sanicare premium hygienic tissue that occupied a lot of space in our basement. (They were remnants from my television days when advertisers sometimes didn't pay in cash but by giving you a busload of their products.)

Only now do I realize the value of Sanicare in my life! I cry, sneeze, cough and sniffle a lot these days—and Sanicare has been my savior from many potentially embarrassing situations.

Hope

I am totally clueless as to who Cristina Ocampo-Ferrer is. She wrote me a letter which replenished my sometimes dwindling supply of hope. She said there's this herb cultivated by the Dumagats of Rodriguez town in Rizal that cures serious illnesses. It's a bitter herb and it is to be chewed. Well, what can I say? I'll sink my teeth into anything if that's God's way of bestowing upon me the miracle of healing!

Speaking of miracles, I first met Norma de Leon at the dialysis center. She dutifully accompanied her husband to his regular date with a dialyzer. Then, I didn't see Norma for a while. When I met her again, she had good news: Her husband is healed, he does not need dialysis anymore. And he didn't have to have a kidney transplant either! A miracle? Yes. And I believe in miracles.

The dialysis center is a place where one meets all sorts of strangers and friends from the past. Like, I met Susan Fuentes. Remember her? Hers was the voice behind "Miss Kita Kung Krismas" many Christmases ago. She also undergoes dialysis thrice weekly.

Since the last time I met her, a lot has happened that has made her shed buckets of tears. But, as I see her now, she is the portrait of a woman who is victorious simply because no adversity could daunt her, no affliction could cow her. Sometimes, a certain sadness grips her but she always musters the courage to volt into the strength that God stored in her when He made her.

Blessed

If Sharon Cuneta were a word, that word would mean magnanimity of the spirit, munificence of the heart. I consider myself blessed to have personally witnessed the awesomeness of her friendship. Sha, my heart is silenced by the mere remembrance of your name.

By the way, in paintings, their complexion is always perfectly white, but did you know that there are also dark-skinned angels? Like Angge. Yes, she's an angel dispatched personally by God to take care of me. She buys my groceries, runs little errands for me, co-anchors my daily radio show. And while she hasn't shed off any of her patently Angge ways, she also has not lost any of the qualities that make her such a dear, dear Friend.

Truth to tell, I have my very own angel network. They also include the likes of Bobbing Garcia, Albert Minguez, Ronald Constantino, Fanny Serrano and many, many more. I'm treading dangerous ground here because this space can't possibly accommodate the names of the entire battalions of angels that God has sent out to me. Even now I already ask forgiveness from those whose names I failed to mention here.

I cried when my sister Letty and her beloved Carlitos visited me at home over one weekend. They took care of me. She asked about my diet. He looked over my medicines. My heart blushed with unabashed glee. I never realized how comforting it was to be fussed over.

At another time, I awoke from a very restful sleep and opened my eyes to the sight of Letty. She was there, just there, doing nothing but watch over me, waiting for me to greet the day. How great the solace simple acts of love can give.

This sister of mine can be so loquacious sometimes, chirping about anything and everything. Once in a while, I've felt the desire to tell her to just zip it—for us to partake in peace of the bliss that flows from just being together and connecting with the child in each other.

But I stopped myself, opting to just savor the moment and file it in some mental filofax, to be retrieved every now and then, especially when times call for affirmation of one's value in this life.

Awesome

All my brothers and sisters are awesome. Sometimes, we are not so expressive with our affections. But the ties that bind us go beyond words and gestures—precisely because the most profound feelings are sometimes wordless and best expressed in the realm of the senses.

Nats, my sister in the US, sent me a gold chain looping a heart pendant inscribed with a Chinese character that stands for good luck. Her message was something like: "I don't know why I bought this but it came from somebody in need. I'm giving it to you. Wear it everyday so you'll know where you are in my heart."

By the way, I'm quite embarrassed to say this, but I salute my family for bearing with my, uhm, steely stubbornness. I know beyond any shadow of doubt that they love me, care for me, and only have my best interests at heart—but, *wala lang,* there are times when I just need to be reassured that I'm still my own person, even though that person has already gone to hell and back many times over!

Implacability

Bo is a pillar of patience. Clara is learning what big words like forbearance and fortitude mean. In the past weeks, my in-laws, nieces, nephews and just about everybody else have come face-to-face with just how tough Jimenez implacability is because of me. Is it possible that God has actually designed me to be my family's personal road to sainthood?

Ed and Bettina, from my father's side of the family, came to visit. Their presence was a breath of fresh air that blew away the mustiness of the years. In some primal way, a powerful reconnection was established and, deep inside, I got a glimpse of what God's plan was when He made families.

I can go on and on. These are all people who have made me know how precious life is. The list is far from complete. The complete one is enshrined in my heart. These special people are living, powerful proof that God has the capacity to smile. He looks upon the earth and pans His sight upon the people. When He sees me, He stops for a while. Sometimes, He shakes His head. Always, He smiles.

By the way, I still don't want to tell Clara how young I am. I mean, she'll get to know why when she reaches this age, won't she? There, I feel God smiling again.

Musical evocation of silence

By Leia Torre

THE album "Silence" is a takeoff from the book of the same title. According to the introduction written by Jaime Zobel, the idea to write a book about silence entered his mind two years ago. This resulted in a partnership between Zobel, who provided the photographs, and Randolph S. David, who wrote the text that accompanied these "illustrations."

Long hours

Jaime Zobel informs us that they found solace in music while they were spending long hours working on "Silence," the book.

This album is the result of Zobel's realization that stemmed from his listening to many recordings of "quiet and soothing" music--that "we could subliminally learn to discern compositions of great beauty" from listening to all of nature's sounds around us.

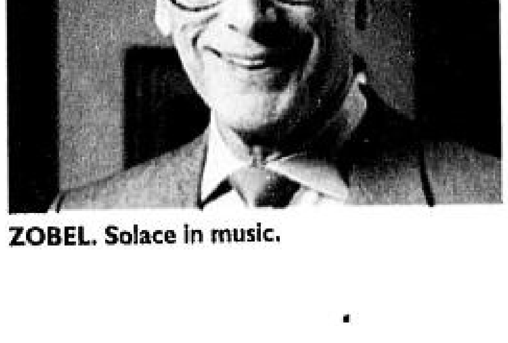
This idea moved him to expand on their project by looking for gifted Filipino musicians and composers in order to personify "Silence" through music.

As part of his contribution to the book, Randy David interviewed 19 individuals from different walks of life, and one of these people was jazz composer Rayben Maigue, who wrote several compositions that have been included in this album. The other composer involved is Nhick Pacis.

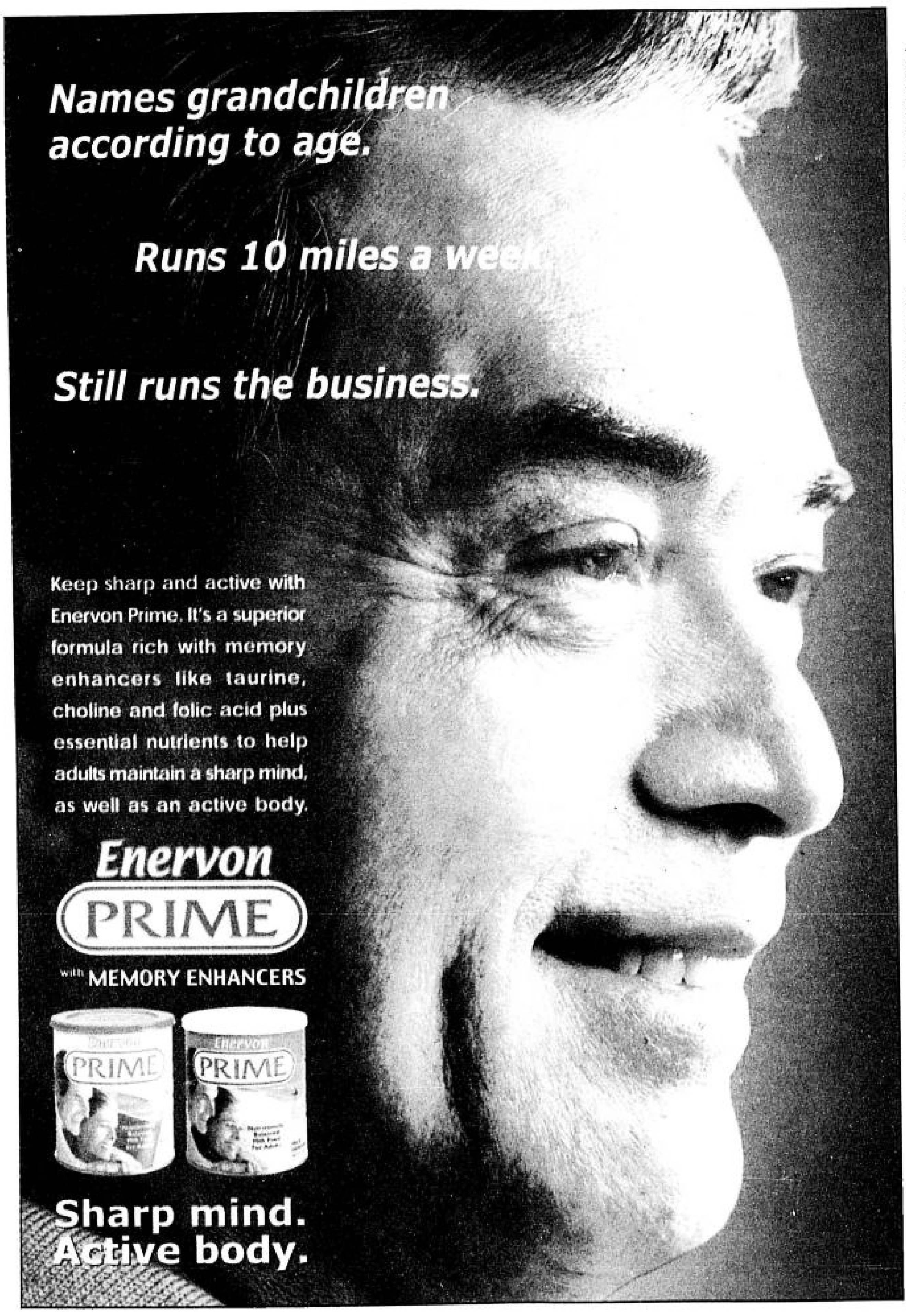
14 selections

The album is composed of 14 selections, each painstakingly crafted to personify silence, yet re-

MUSICAL/ p. E2



ZOBEL. Solace in music.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SCIENCE/HEALTH

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Assessing your own pain levels and getting medical relief for it

By Charles E. Buban

BEING in a state of uncontrolled pain is a horrible, frightening experience that should always be considered a medical concern.

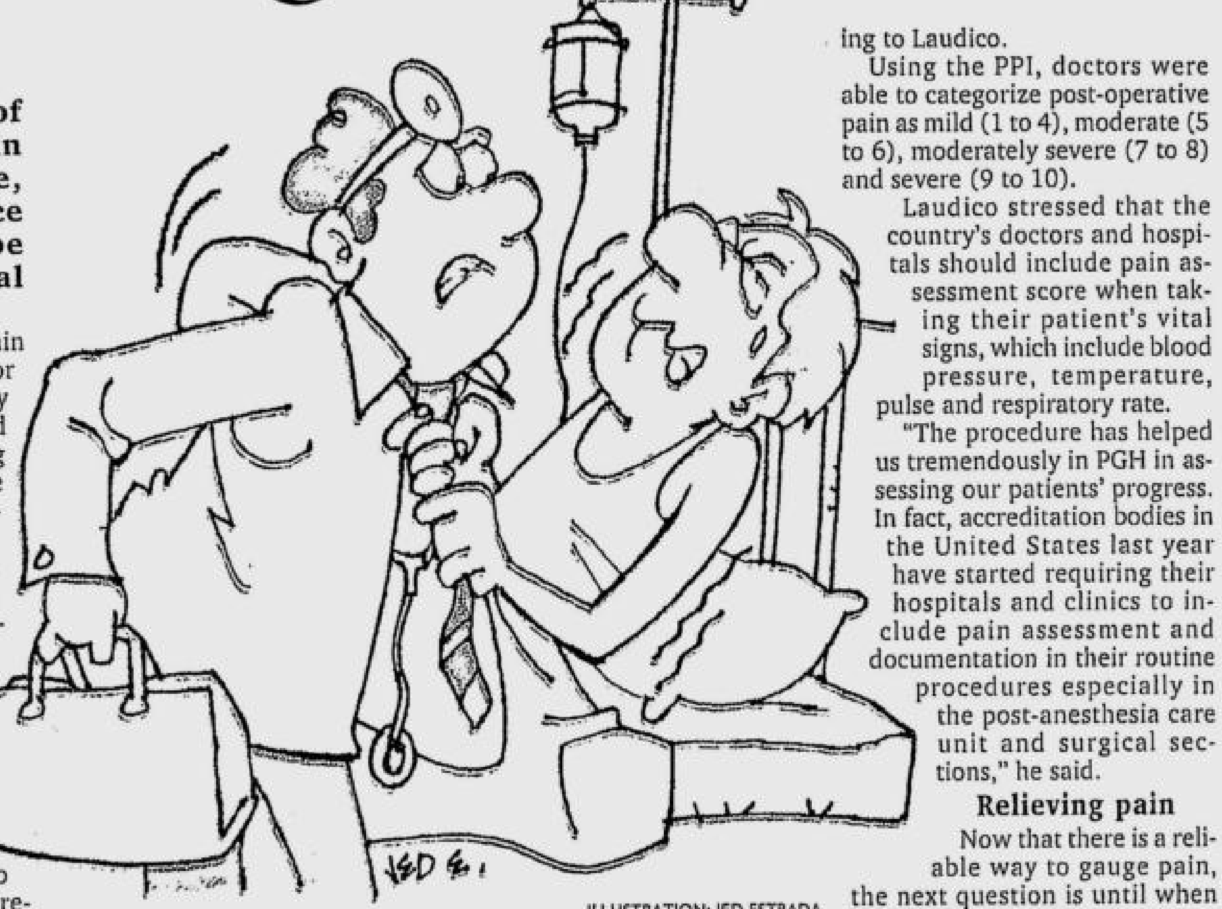


ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

A patient may encounter pain while undergoing treatment or after having one. The pain may be mild, moderate or severe and may last for a short or a long time. It may be caused by the disease itself or by the treatment.

A number of studies suggest that uncontrolled pain has an adverse effect on the body's immune system that may delay the healing process. Continuous pain also appears to lower the body's ability to respond to stressful situations such as surgery, chemotherapy and psychological stress.

Clinicians and scientists who deal with pain agree that unrelieved severe pain can cause serious interference with one's daily functions.

"Pain should never be part of the equation. Whatever kind of pain one has, it is very important that he informs his doctor so that something can be done to ease it and make him as comfortable as possible. Everybody should realize that pain can be relieved," said Dr. Adriano Laudico of the Philippine General Hospital's surgery department during an Agham Ugnayan sa Press forum.

Reliable indicator

Laudico stressed that the most reliable indicator of the presence and intensity of pain is the patient itself.

"Pain is an individual experience. Only the patient can best describe how painful it is," said Laudico.

This makes communication between patient and his doctor very important.

Previously, there was no reliable and effective means to measure pain. Today, Laudico said doctors abroad have devised a "pain diary" to give them an effective indicator how well their prescribed medication is working on their patient.

The diary allows patients to rate the pain they are feeling on a scale of zero to 10, wherein zero means no pain and 10 means the worst pain you can imagine.

Laudico and a team under the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development conducted surveys of cancer patients in Manila and Cebu to see whether this latest pain management system could be applied here in the Philippines.

"The Brief Pain Inventory (BPI) that we did revealed that it did not matter whether you are Tagalog, Cebuano, American or French—the way a person felt pain was the same wherever he was," Laudico said.

One of the issues addressed by the group was the tendency of Filipinos to hide their pain.

But given the right approach and the proper way of rating pain, Laudico's team was able to categorize pain intensity among cancer patients as mild (1 to 4), moderate (5 to 6) and severe (8 to 10).

"The BPI has consistently shown that the higher the pain intensity score, the greater the interference with general activity, mood, walking ability, work, relationships with other people, sleep and enjoyment of life of our patients," Laudico said.

Post-operative pain

A Post-operative Pain Inventory (PPI) for patients who underwent surgery showed that pain was closely associated with interference with deep breathing, coughing and walking. Inability to perform these activities is a common cause of complications that may even lead to death in post-operative patients, according to Laudico.

Using the PPI, doctors were able to categorize post-operative pain as mild (1 to 4), moderate (5 to 6), moderately severe (7 to 8) and severe (9 to 10).

Laudico stressed that the country's doctors and hospitals should include pain assessment score when taking their patient's vital signs, which include blood pressure, temperature, pulse and respiratory rate.

"The procedure has helped us tremendously in PGH in assessing our patients' progress. In fact, accreditation bodies in the United States last year have started requiring their hospitals and clinics to include pain assessment and documentation in their routine procedures especially in the post-anesthesia care unit and surgical sections," he said.

Relieving pain

Now that there is a reliable way to gauge pain, the next question is until when should a patient tolerate pain.

According to Laudico, a pain score higher than five is unacceptable.

"Patients should only experience mild pain and nothing more. It's a doctor's duty to make sure his patient doesn't suffer from unnecessary pain and there are drugs to accomplish this," he said.

Programs to improve pain relief especially among cancer patients are growing worldwide.

Strong opioid analgesics, especially morphine, are available to doctors who manage severe cancer pain. In fact, the World Health Organization uses morphine consumption as one indicator of a country's progress in managing pain. Although these countries also use other opioid analgesics, morphine is used as an indicator due to its acceptability and intensive use throughout the world.

In other countries, commercial availability of morphine is generally sufficient for medical needs. However, this is not true for the majority of the world's population.

"Here in the Philippines, there is little or no use of morphine. Almost all of the morphine that is produced for medical purposes is consumed in...the United States and Europe," Laudico reported.

"It's not because we don't have access to morphine—it's because we were bombarded with so many myths about the drug that patients are afraid of it and few doctors prescribe it. The government's excessive regulation isn't helping either," said Laudico.

Extremely low risk

According to Laudico, the WHO and the International Narcotics Control Board have repeatedly reminded countries that the risk of addiction to the medical use of morphine sulfate is extremely low.

"It's not true that patients who take morphine will become addicted. Patients usually don't have drug-seeking behavior. When their pain is in good control, they don't desire more opiates. Sometimes we can even decrease the dosage," he said.

The United Nations' health and narcotic control agencies have recognized that insufficient use of opioid analgesics is traceable to several barriers, including restrictive laws and regulations.

"Morphine sulfate should be actively promoted particularly in developing countries where cost of drugs is a major barrier to effective pain treatment," urged Laudico.

In the Philippines morphine is classified as a narcotic and is thus highly regulated.

"All surveys on why the country has such a poor pain treatment have repeatedly pointed (the blame) to the government's excessive regulations in prescribing the analgesic," said Laudico.

The newly enacted Republic Act 9165, or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 that repealed the 30-year-old Dangerous Drugs Act, still retains provisions that restrict morphine use.

The law still requires physicians to secure a narcotic (S2) license and use special prescription (yellow) pads (which contain only 25 sheets) that can only be purchased from the Dangerous Drugs Board. Only a limited amount per prescription can be dispensed, although the needs of most cancer patients exceed the amount allowed by the DDB. An extremely detailed drug disposition form will also have to be accomplished.

"You can't motivate doctors to prescribe morphine no matter how essential it is in pain management," noted Laudico.

He reported that only 50 percent of the country's surgeons actually prescribe the drug for cancer pain while 15 percent use it for post-operative pain.

At present, there are only about 21,000 doctors in the country who are licensed to prescribe morphine sulfate. This figure is small compared to the more than 95,000 registered medical practitioners.

Perhaps the government can take a cue from the United Nations' International Narcotics Control Board that said in 1989 that limiting the availability of opiates for medical use does not necessarily guarantee prevention of the abuse of illicitly procured opiates.

"Overly restrictive approaches may, in the end, merely result in depriving a majority of the population access to opiate medications," it said.

AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION OF MORPHINE PER MILLION INHABITANTS

1.	Denmark	6,993
2.	Sweden	3,472
3.	Canada	3,400
4.	New Zealand	3,283
5.	Australia	3,318
6.	UK	2,569
7.	USA	2,310
8.	France	2,201
9.	New Caledonia	865
10.	Christmas Island	502
11.	Japan	471
12.	Hong Kong	309
13.	South Korea	115
14.	French Polynesia	110
15.	Singapore	88
16.	Malaysia	60
17.	Macao	32
18.	Sri Lanka	21
19.	Thailand	20
20.	**PHILIPPINES**	**14**
21.	Brunei Darussalam	13
22.	China	9
23.	India	6

SOURCE: WHO 1994-1998 REPORT

Smile, you're having a CT scan

By Nancy Calauor Carvajal

SINGAPORE—Going through a CT scan today can be simple and comfortable, and as easy as having a shampoo in a beauty parlor.

Somatom Smile, a spiral computed tomography (CT) scanner designed by Siemens Medical Solutions, is a less invasive, highly accurate and economical alternative to ordinary CT scans.

Launched here last week, the newest CT technology is called smile because it is a "happy" invention that could help in the early detection of diseases.

CT scan uses a special X-ray equipment that rotates around the body to obtain images from different angles. These images are processed by a computer to show a picture of tissues and organs. A CT scan can eliminate the need for invasive surgical biopsies.

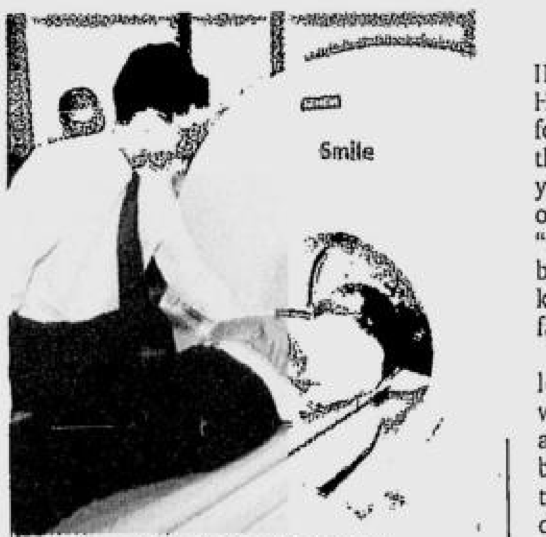
Conventional CT scanners require a patient to hold his breath several times to get images of a large part of his body. With the Somatom Smile, a patient only has to hold his breath once and a wide area of his body is already scanned.

Ordinary CT systems often tilt the donut-shaped gantry and this is uncomfortable for the patient. The Somatom Smile can simulate a tilt up to 45 degrees while the patient relaxes on the CT bed. It also has an optimized table design for easier and faster positioning of patients.

Spiral CT examinations are fast and simple. They can reveal internal injuries and bleeding quickly enough to save lives especially in trauma cases. The Somatom Smile can obtain rapid volume scans and is capable of doing 99 uninterrupted scans.

Conventional CT scanners eat up a wide space and take two to three days to install. The Somatom Smile is compact and takes only three hours to install. There are no special requirements and scanning can begin within hours after installation.

Dr. Richard Hausmann, chief executive officer of the CT division of Siemens Medical Solutions, said one of the challenges faced by healthcare providers in Asia is how to ensure that their facilities and systems are up to date while keeping costs down.



THE Somatom Smile CT scanner

Through the Somatom Smile, Siemens maintains its commitment to help healthcare providers meet this challenge and improve healthcare in Asia, he said.

A CT scanner costs about $2.5 million. The Somatom Smile spiral scanner costs $200,000. It comes with a camera and all accessories.

Dr. Eugene Lee, president of the Asia-Pacific headquarters of Siemens Medical Solutions, said service support for their product is coordinated in Singapore where a spare parts center makes it possible to get parts to Asia in a matter of hours.

In the Philippines, the Chong Hua Hospital in Cebu City was the first to acquire Somatom Smile. Dr. Jimmy Chan said they found the spiral scanner the most effective way for noninvasive treatment of their patients.

"It has a very high rate of accuracy," Chan said.

"By making CT more accessible, we help save lives by enabling the timely and accurate administration of treatment," Hausmann said.

What price beauty?

By Massie K. Santos
Contributor

(First of two parts)

IN THE MOVIE "Death Becomes Her," Goldie Hawn and Meryl Streep force Bruce Willis to develop a potion that would keep them forever looking young. They would have been better off talking about immortality with "vampires" Brad Pitt and Tom Cruise because the potion Willis developed kept them alive but had them literally falling to pieces.

Still, the movie emphasizes the length women—and men—are willing to go to in the name of ageless beauty. If that fails to bring the point across, a look at the various cosmetic procedures people have endured in recent decades alone should do the trick.

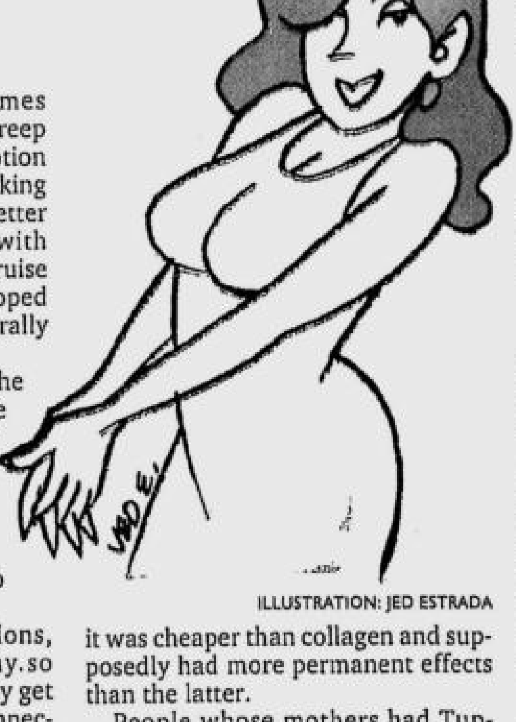


ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

Nobody likes getting injections, which makes one wonder why so many people live for the day they get injected (and reinjected) with unnecessary chemicals like silicon.

Two decades ago, silicone breast implants were found in practically every woman who appeared on TV, as well as in women who never made headlines. The implants' popularity waned only when people realized that the silicone was leaking and causing breast cancer (or maybe because the silicone just didn't feel "natural").

Collagen vs silicone

Collagen practically replaced silicone overnight, as people continued to explain why their favorite celebrities suddenly had fuller lips or more shapely legs. The main reason was readily apparent: collagen was something doctors could legally insert into patients' bodies, and silicone wasn't.

Still, silicone never really went away, as evidenced by deaths related to illegal injections of the substance as recent as last year. Unlike their previous incarnations though, the silicone used was in liquid form, long banned for use in humans, although it was cheaper than collagen and supposedly had more permanent effects than the latter.

People whose mothers had Tupperware parties now held cosmetic quick-fix parties, with doctors in attendance to administer the injections. Unfortunately, in many cases, the so-called doctors didn't have medical training: a man arrested for the death of a woman he injected turned out to be a house cleaner. Other patients suffered permanent nerve damage, got sick from the dirty needles used on them, and got curves and lumps where they didn't want them.

Slick infomercials

Knowing the effects of illegal cosmetic injections on people whose only crime was vanity should have been enough to make others more wary of falling into the same trap. Yet people still buy cosmetic quick fixes based on slick infomercials.

There is a need to verify the license or credentials of any doctor administering cosmetic injections, as well as those of so-called medical practitioners endorsing products on 30-minute television commercials.

While having injections administered in a registered clinic may be the best method of guaranteeing that these skilled practitioners really know what they're doing, most people leave silicone parties with the idea that getting cosmetic injections with one's friends is a true bonding experience. Besides, having friends around guarantees a third party who can verify the results immediately.

Botox parties

This is part of the reason Botox parties are the new rage (they are expected to hit Asia before the end of the year, if not sooner).

The ads have been out on TV in America for weeks, featuring women in their 40s and 50s, according to the information flashed beside each smiling face. The audience is supposed to think the women look younger than their age because their faces don't have too many lines or wrinkles, and that this is all due to Botox.

Marketed by Allergan, Botox is actually derived from the *Clostridium botulinum* bacteria, more commonly known as the toxin that causes botulism or food poisoning, hence the name. It acts as a muscle relaxant, making the nerves immobile, thus preventing wrinkles around the injected muscle.

Botox has been around since the last decade, used primarily in ophthalmology before its wrinkle-free properties were put to use.

Recent studies, however, indicate that the drug may have even more uses, like for the relief of migraine. Independent studies done by the Mayo Clinic and 12 other institutions show that people who suffer from migraines and tension headaches have at least 50 percent less headaches after becoming regular Botox patients.

Advil, Tylenol, Excedrin and Biogesic, move aside and make room for the new drug. Allergan stocks must be rising at the possibility of yet another commercial use for this product.

The author can be reached at massie@massie.com

ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

The case of the corporate stress

By Rafael R. Castillo, MD

ROSE Ong, a key executive in a big French pharmaceutical firm in the country, got the biggest shock of her life when her expatriate boss told her she only had 30 minutes to decide whether to resign or be terminated. She has been accused of being responsible for some misdeeds of her subordinates and for a host of petty offenses.

Rose felt the injustice was simply too much. She gave the company the best years of her life, 14 years to be exact. When she joined the company, it was just a small struggling firm promoting unproven medications. Heading the promotions department, she was instrumental in convincing the medical community about the scientific basis of their drugs. Because of her professionalism and sincerity, she earned the respect of many top doctors that reflected well on her company.

Now, her company has sales reaching more than a billion pesos. It's a big and stable company now. All her efforts in the past seemed to have been forgotten and she's not even allowed to leave the company with some dignity.

The next few days seemed like an eternity in hell for Rose. She couldn't sleep at night; her appetite deserted her; her ulcers acted up again; and her migraine was unrelenting. However, with her unceasing prayer plus the unwavering support of her family and friends, she was at peace again with herself and the traumatic experience she was in after a few days. She found comfort in reading the Bible and the kind words of her many friends were a soothing balm to her frayed nerves.

Corporate stress

Rose is suffering from corporate stress, which is quite common in today's modern world. It is a significant cause of acquired illnesses at work and of dwindling productivity from the rank and file to the managerial up to the executive levels.

The pressures in the corporate setting comes in many forms: meeting the quota, beating deadlines for reports, aspiring for a promotion, handling interpersonal problems, coping with an unreasonable boss, to name a few. With excessive stress in the work environment, this leads to a host of symptoms and complaints called psychosomatic reaction. This simply means that it's too much for the mind (psyche) to handle; it sort of spills over to the body (somatic). And it can manifest as a litany of symptoms ranging from insomnia, irritability, inability to concentrate, mental lapses, to headaches, dizziness, loose bowels, frequent urination, tingling sensation, hyperventilation and a hundred other possible complaints.

Handling stress well

There are simple proven ways to handle stress well. The Health and Wellness Program of the Manila Adventist Medical Center calls it the NEW START. The acronym stands for Nutrition, Exercise, Water therapy, Sunshine, Temperance, Air and Trust in God. This is a simple formula to lick corporate and all forms of stress, but the big irony is that many seem to find it complicated to adhere to.

Blessie Varona, the program directress, says that the NEW START program inculcates the discipline to follow the simple healthy principles it promotes. Various testimonials of previously burned out or overstressed individuals attest to its effectiveness.

From a scientific standpoint, it does make sense. There's no question on the importance of adequate nutrition to nourish the body with the necessary vitamins and nutrients that are frequently depleted in overstressed individuals. Stress increases the metabolism of the body and makes it use up more nutrients that it normally does. Harmful substances in the body called free radicals are formed which mercilessly destroys healthy cells.

Exercise is a form of physical stress and it teaches the body, particularly the nervous system, to adjust well to whatever types of stress it is confronted with. The warm-up phase of exercise is important in teaching the body how to gear up for a stress reaction, while the cooling down phase teaches the body how it feels to recover from stress.

What one needs

The benefits of water therapy are undisputable. In warm and humid countries like ours, we should take at least three liters of fluids per day to maintain an effective blood volume to get the circulation going well. If we're dehydrated, our heart reacts by beating faster to compensate for the diminished blood volume. Since the effect of stress is also an increase in heart rate, lack of fluids therefore exaggerates further the stress reaction.

Adequate sunshine is also necessary for proper metabolism although an excessive exposure to ultraviolet rays may also be detrimental. Early morning or late afternoon sunshine would be ideal.

Fresh air is also very important, which unfortunately may be a rarity with the poor ventilation of many offices especially if the employees are allowed to smoke in the workplace. The ills of second-hand smoke are well known. In air-conditioned poorly ventilated offices, this may be a serious health risk. Air pollution also accelerates the formation of free radicals that further aggravates the stress reaction.

Adequate sleep and rest make an important keystone in combating stress. The body has to be given enough time to recharge itself so it can be ready to handle the next day's stress. Sleep requirement may vary from one individual to another, but most would need 7 to 8 hours of sound sleep each night.

Providential vindication

Lastly, but most importantly, it's when one trusts in God, sublimates everything for His glory, and rests everything on His divine will, that one can find the strongest defense that will make any form of stress as just part of the daily routine called living.

Rose's case is still unresolved up to now, but she maintains her trust in God, knowing fully well that providential vindication will be given her. She has always had her company's best interest at heart, and she has not done anything serious that should merit her unjust termination.

She has turned down her boss' offer of several millions if she would resign peacefully and not cause trouble. "I don't want those millions," Rose says. ``I would rather have my honor and integrity back!"

Science celebration: RP's new academicians

(Third of four parts)

EUREKA!

Queena N. Lee-Chua

NEXT week the National Academy of Science and Technology will induct two new members into its august lineup: Romulo G. Davide for nematology and plant pathology and Asuncion K. Raymundo for microbial genetics and anti-microbial bacterial taxonomy.

Dr. Davide says: "Aware that nematodes are...pests of...many crops such as banana, citrus, pineapple, coffee, sugarcane, rice, corn, tomato and potato that cause annual...yield losses of 10 to 50 percent (worth several billions of pesos), I devoted most of my...scientific work for the past 30 years (studying) nematodes host-parasite relationships, surveying and identifying nematodes attacking economic crops, and their cultural and biological control.

"The knowledge gained from these studies has undoubtedly enriched the science of Philippine nematology, while my discoveries on the control of nematodes have provided our farmers effective means of doing so, thus increasing crop productivity and farmer income."

As program coordinator of the Farmer-Scientists Training Program in Cebu, Dr. Davide helped transform farmers into farmer-scientists, technicians, agribusinessmen and effective community leaders. He also helped farmers improve production of corn, vegetables, root crops and milk.

Under the supervision of scientists, many farmers in his hometown of Argao and Barili in Cebu are now planting high-yielding varieties and hybrids of corn, tomato, pepper, eggplant, *ampalaya*, squash, sweet potato, *munggo*, cassava and peanut. Many have also raised cows to produce milk for family use and additional income.

Dr. Davide also introduced newly developed microbial fertilizers (Bio-N and Netroplus) to farmers.

Bio-N, which was developed by UP Los Baños (UPLB), could substitute 50 percent of the nitrogen needs of corn plants. It is the best substitute for urea inorganic fertilizer, which costs much more. Netroplus could greatly improve the growth and yield of *munggo*, cowpea and peanut.

Organizing farmers

Dr. Davide also helped farmers organize associations and cooperatives as training for entrepreneurship. In so doing, he not only improved their income and quality of life but also made them effective leaders.

He reports: "Many of the trained farmers are now holding positions as barangay captains and members of the barangay council. They are active and dynamic leaders. They were able to convince the mayor and the governor to support their barangay road-building and irrigation projects as well as the electrification of their communities. I helped them draft the resolutions and letters for the support of these projects. Some officials are also requesting more trading centers and (the improvement of) existing barangay markets and roads. These show that our program can develop our farmers into progressive and dynamic community leaders."

Academician Davide was born on March 14, 1934 in Argao, Cebu. He obtained his bachelor's degree in agriculture from UPLB in 1957, his master's from the Oklahoma State University in 1962, and his doctorate from the North Carolina State University in 1966.

The author of more than 100 scientific papers and a recipient of numerous awards, he is at present adjunct professor of plant pathology at UPLB.

Microbial geneticist

Academician Raymundo was born on Aug. 15, 1946 in San Fernando, La Union. She finished her bachelor's degree in agriculture, cum laude, at UPLB in 1966, her master's in plant pathology at the University of Hawaii in 1969, and her doctorate in plant pathology (bacteriology) at the University of Illinois in 1980. She also did postdoctoral studies in Australia and Japan.

The author of more than 70 scientific papers and a recipient of numerous awards, she has been the director of the UPLB Institute of Biological Sciences since 1999.

According to Academician Salcedo Eduardo: "Microbial genetics makes extensive use of molecular biology and complementarily enriches the field. Because of the ferment of activity in it, Dr. Raymundo chose to eventually specialize in microbial genetics because it offers a fertile field of opportunities, especially for the mentally alert. She and her collaborators studied the genetic diversity and molecular detection of two microorganisms, *Xanthomonas oryzae* pv. Oryzicola, the causal organism of bacterial leaf streak of rice, and *Ralstonia (pseudomonas) solanacearum*, the causal bacterium of wilt of many solanaceous crops and of banana."

Our country is the fourth biggest exporter of banana in the world and has captured 77 percent of Japan's banana imports. Controlling banana plant diseases is thus a high economic and social priority.

Through DNA techniques, Dr. Raymundo's team has shown that the *moko* and *bugtok* diseases of banana are actually the same pathogen attacking different varieties, thus debunking the widely held belief that the these two diseases have different pathogens.

Local antibiotics

Dr. Raymundo also studied antibiotic production extensively.

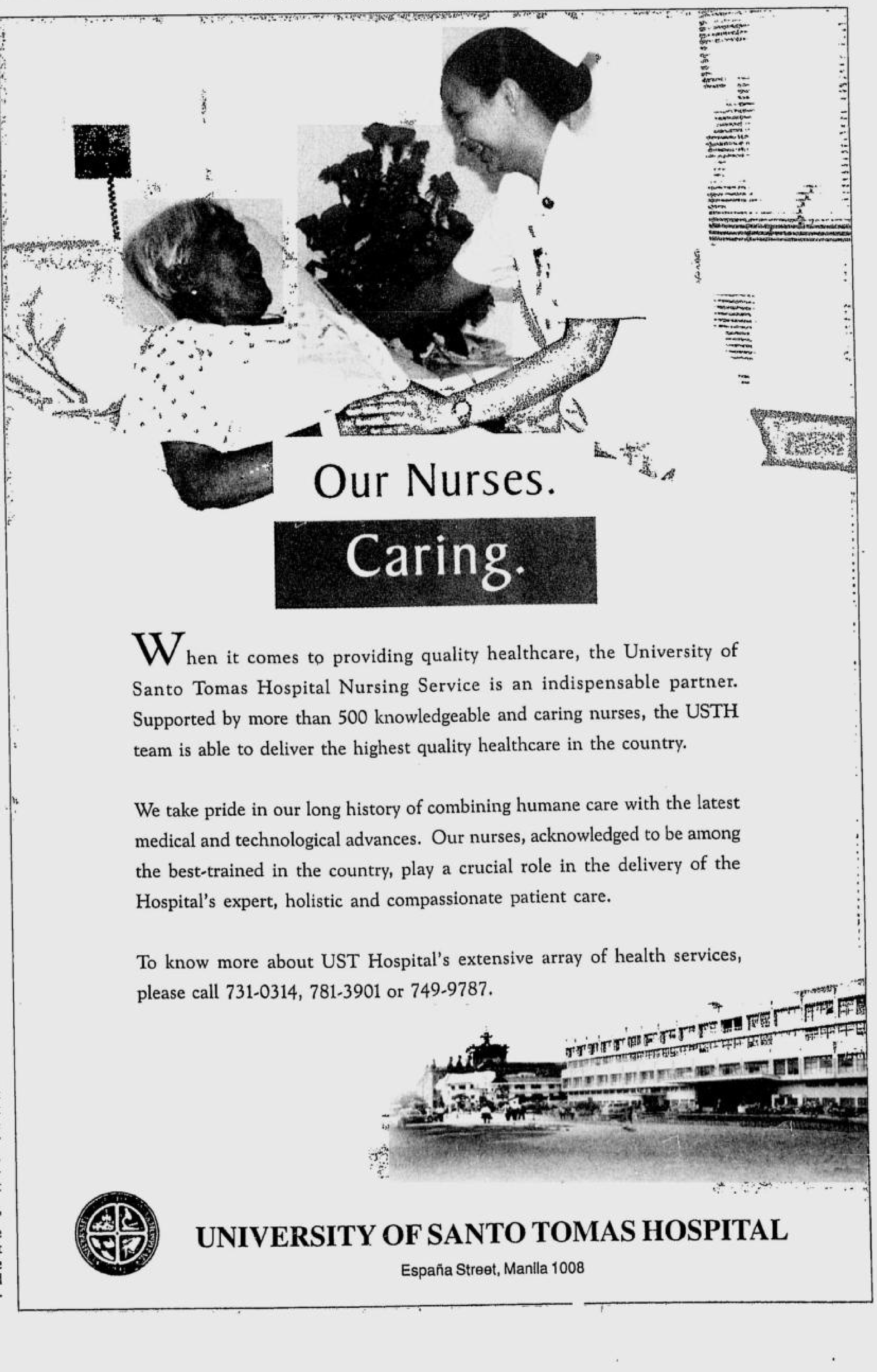
According to Eduardo: "She and her collaborators have developed a simple process to produce tylosin locally as a feed additive. Tylosin is one of the few antibiotics that has been established as good feed additive and exclusively used for animals. She has shown that the microorganism producing this antibiotic could grow on local materials. She has also improved yield through strain improvement to increase the antibiotic-producing ability of the organism, leading to cheaper and affordable production cost. At present, they are doing research on the production of pleuromutilin, a therapeutant, and avermectin, an antihelminthic."

Through her research grants, Dr. Raymundo developed the microbial genetics facilities at the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology and at the Institute of Biological Sciences. These facilities were open not only to UPLB students and staff, but also to those from other institutions.

As chair of the Philippine Academy of Microbiology, Dr. Raymundo ensures the accreditation of qualified microbiologists. She has conducted numerous workshops and seminars to link academe and industry.

We salute Academicians Davide and Raymundo and hope that they inspire our youth to follow their lead.

(Queena N. Lee-Chua, Ph.D. is an associate professor of mathematics and psychology at the Ateneo de Manila University. She writes the column "Mind Games" for www. inq7.net every Wednesday. Contact her at blessbook@yahoo.com.)



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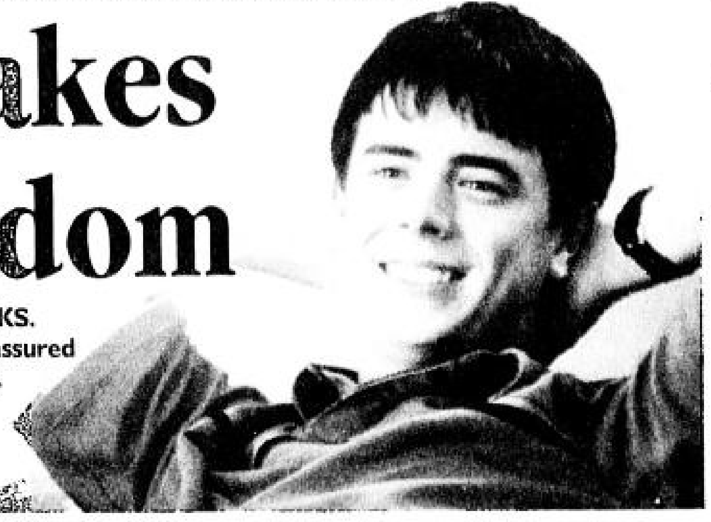
SATURDAY*Special*

Colin Hanks makes his bid for stardom



HANKS. Self-assured actor.

By Nestor U. Torre

SOME people say that Tom Hanks is the King Of Hollywood. If so, what does that make his son and heir, Colin? "Prince" is too royal a word to describe him at this relatively early stage of his career. But, call him what you will, Colin has to bear the almost insurmountable burden of "heavy" cinematic lineage.

Shadow

How can he hope to emerge as a star in his own right under the looming shadow of his father's overwhelmingly popular and iconic Everyman screen persona?

Answer: By not even trying to be different. Because, like it or not, Colin is like a young Tom in both looks and temperament, and denying either is a lost cause.

Thus, when he started acting on TV, Colin opted to play a shy, aw-shucks young alien in "Roswell." Truth to tell, he was upstaged by some of his more dynamic young co-stars—but, when you're Tom's son and scion, you can afford to bide your time, learn the ropes, and wait for a better time to strut your stuff.

Credits

That time has finally come for Colin, by way of the film "Orange County." Before that, he had already notched up early big-screen credits in "Get Over It" and "Whatever It Takes," and also appeared in HBO's critically-acclaimed mini-series, "Band of Brothers." But it's taken "Orange County" for Hollywood insiders to stop referring to Colin as "Tom Hanks' kid," and take him on his own terms.

And what terms are those? In the words of "Orange County" director Jake Kasdan, "Colin is a very self-assured young actor. He has this ease about him, this quiet confidence that allows him to be loose and funny—and genuine. Real leading man stuff! He was playing opposite some daunting actors, but if he ever felt the heat, it never showed."

Expectations

For his part, Colin acknowledges that "Orange County" is his make-or-break film as a young star. He admits that being "King" Tom Hanks' son opens doors for him—but it also raises expectations so high that he gets dizzy just thinking of all the demanding people he has to impress.

A young actor could crack under such an awesome "responsibility," but Colin is bright enough to realize that nobody can force him to play under these onerous

COLIN/ p. F2

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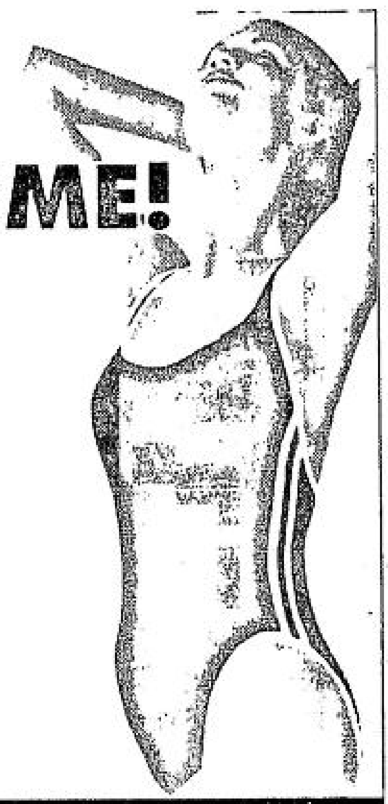

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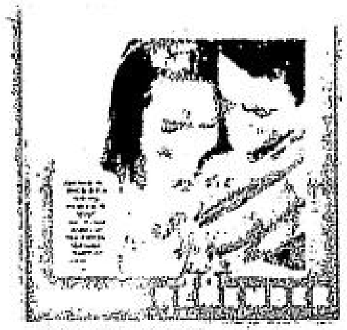

A Walk To Remember-OST
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8 **Acoustic Love Songs** Side A
9 **Come Away With Me** Norah Jones
10 **We Invented The Remix** P. Diddy & Bad Boy keyword: needagirl
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14 **Ashanti** Ashanti
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16 **Nellyville** Nelly keyword: hotinhere
17 **Pinakamamahal** Aiza Seguerra
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Two animated features compete for viewers' attention

By Nestor U. Torre

THE VERY good showing of animated features like "Shrek" and "Monsters Inc." last year has resulted in many more full-length animated productions being produced and screened in the next few months.

'Legend of the Titanic'

"Lilo and Stitch" has already done big business in the States, auguring an even better year for animated features in 2002. It's swiftly being followed by "The Legend of the Titanic."

In the film, Don Juan, prince of the Spanish gypsies, is sailing on the Titanic with his pet dog, Smiley. On the first class deck are the Duke of Camden, his daughter Elizabeth, her stepmother, and the Baron Van der Tilt, Elizabeth's fiancé. Little does Elizabeth know that her stepmother and the baron are secret lovers who are only after the duke's fortune.

This story unfolds through the eyes of Top Connors, a mouse that survives the ship's sinking. Other mice arrange for Don Juan and Elizabeth to fall for each other. They also teach Elizabeth to speak to animals, like Don Juan.

Vicious ocean creatures

The villains enlist the help of vicious ocean creatures that throw a huge iceberg into the Titanic's path, to kill Don Juan and Elizabeth. But love finds a way to turn the tragedy into a more positive experience for at least some of the people involved.

Meanwhile, "The Powerpuff Girls," the Cartoon Network's highest-rated show, has now been made for the big screen. For director Craig McCracken, it's like coming full-circle. Reason: "The Powerpuff Girls" began their cartoon lives as the title characters in "The Whoopass Girls," a student film he directed while studying character animation at the California Institute of the Arts.

Accidental

How did he think up the three Powerpuff Girls? McCracken muses, "The girls were kind of accidental, almost like how Professor Utonium created them. I just happened to draw these three little girls, and their main thing is that their eyes were based on the Keene paintings from the '60s.

Why have the Powerpuff Girls become so popular worldwide? "I guess, because of their combination of cuteness and toughness. Buttercup is the toughest, Bubbles is the cutest, and Blossom is equally tough and cute-so, they're a kind of balance between those two ideas."

Finally, what makes the movie different from the TV series? "On TV, we're limited in terms of time. The movie is more of a real story, there's a lot more emotional involvement in what's going on. But I think it has the same tone and feel that the series has. It has a lot of action sequences, and it's a lot of fun."

TWO FOR THE SHOW

Kris Aquino deserves to be happy

By Mary Ann A. Bautista and Ricky T. Gallardo

WE reckon that Kris Aquino has the right to find her own path to romantic happiness and personal fulfillment. Never mind if she constantly attracts men who are: (a) married, (b) separated but not annulled and, (c) known to have had failed relationships.

Her recent admission to a relationship with basketball player-turned actor-turned city mayor Joey Marquez shocked a lot of people who secretly wished that Kris would find a mate with fewer complications.

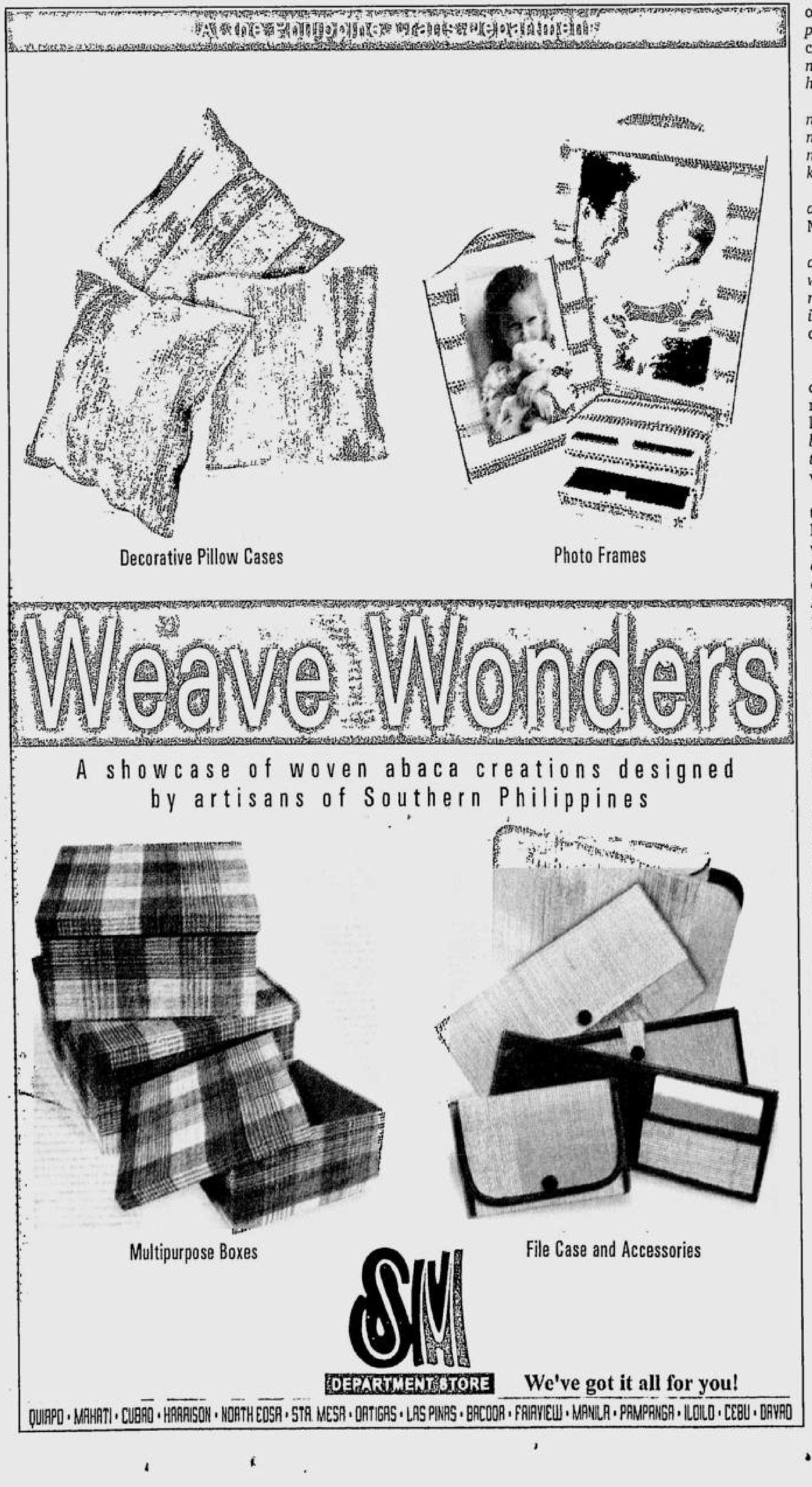
But let's acknowledge Kris' right to decide for herself. Different folks, different strokes, as they say. Let's not be harsh and judge her right away because many of us have also fallen for the wrong person, or for the wrong reasons. Only Kris knows her standards, her preferences, and her ultimate gauge for happiness.

Reuben Laurente goes solo

After going through a voice-wracking bout with throat-related problems, Reuben Laurente of The CompanY says he has two good reasons to be all smiles these days.

First, The CompanY had a very successful major concert at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. And second, Laurente is going solo for a while, four Thursdays this month, at the Country Waffles in Eastwood.

"It will be intimate," he shares, and I'll be singing personal favorites as well as timeless classics." Laurente welcomes this opportunity to reach out and share his gift of music with more people.



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SWITCHING CHANNELS

'Ready Txt Go' premieres July 8

By Edmund L. Sicam

GMA invited a group of entertainment writers recently to play on its latest game show, "Ready Txt Go," which premieres on July 8 at 7 p.m. and will be aired Mondays to Fridays. The new game show was conceived after "TX-TRS 5" which was fully sponsored by Globe did very well in the ratings. "Ready Txt Go" will accept not only subscribers of Globe but also Smart and Talk N Text.

It's good that our episode won't be aired because we performed miserably. The questions were quite simple but coming up with the answer on the giant keyboard proved to be a Herculean task. We just couldn't get the hang of stomping our foot on the buttons, and we kept running out of time.

Tension

We were told to wear rubber shoes because they said the keyboard was sensitive. Some of us took off our shoes and used our socks as footwear. That didn't help, either. To make things even more difficult, one of the keys seemed to be malfunctioning. Then the tension of coming out with an answer in a short time made some of us erratic. The maximum we could have won was P250,000, but our team of five members, which won over our opponents, earned much less than that.

In the actual game show, contestants can win as much as P1 million, which of course will be divided among the five members. Still, P200,000 for one night's work isn't bad. Aside from the studio contestants, viewers can also win, either as text partners or by joining the interactive game. In the interactive feature called SWERTEXT, viewers text in a four-letter combination of their choice. The winning combination gets the pot, which goes up by P100,000 until someone hits the jackpot.

MICHAEL V. Plays himself in his new game show.

Promo plugs

"Ready Txt Go" will be pitted against ABS-CBN's "Game KNB" hosted by Kris Aquino. GMA has gone on the offensive by having its game show host Michael V impersonating Kris in its promo plugs for the show. Michael V has hosted a game show with a similar title before—"Ready, Get Set, Go" which aired in 1991.

Unlike on his other shows, where Michael gets to portray different characters who appear simultaneously on the screen with the help of special effects, Michael plays himself in this game show—though, from time to time, some of his other personas may make surprise appearances. The comedian was quite relaxed when he hosted the game for us. It pays to be a comedian because one is able to project an informal image that helps liven up the show.

Why viewers love watching TV soaps

By Noelani Torre

WHAT is it about the TV soap opera that has made it survive the medium's treacherous waters? Its popularity has remained unquestioned up to this day. Indeed, it has even gained more viewers recently with its imported versions and more polished local ones. A lot of folks just love watching soaps. Why is this?

Sympathy and empathy

"*Minsan kasi naa*-identify *ng mga Filipino ang mga sarili nila sa mga* character *sa* soap opera. *Nagsi*-sympathize *tayo sa kanila. Isa pa, sa* soaps *mayayaman o yayaman ang mga* character, *at yun ang* wish *natin para sa sarili natin. Gusto din natin na nagta*-triumph *sa huli ang mga mabubuti.*

"*Mahilig talaga tayong makialam sa buhay ng may buhay. Gusto natin na nasusundan natin ang* continuity *ng buhay ng iba. Gusto nating malaman kung ano na ang nangyari at kung ano ang susunod na mangyayari.*

"*Basta, mahilig lang talaga tayong sundan ang susunod na kabanata sa buhay ni* Pedro *at* Maria.

"*Ako nanonood ng soap 'pag gusto ko ang artista. Yung iba naman, gaya ng nanay ko, walang ginagawa sa gano'ng oras kaya nanonood na lang ng soap. Para sa iba, nagiging* extension *na ng buhay nila ang* soap opera."*—Angelita Querijero, 45.*

No cable TV

"A lot of people watch soaps because they don't have cable TV. The soap is the only series that they can follow. People in general like to watch shows *na kailangang subaybayan*. It's like *tsismis* and the viewers are the *tsismosos*. The soaps' airing time is also convenient for most viewers.

"Makers of soap operas feed the wants of the people. In their shows, they create a problem and viewers naturally want to know what's going to happen next. Usually, the characters come from the lower and middle classes, *kaya* most people can relate to them. And there's also the love angle that most people want to see."*—Cheena Angeles, 20.*

Target market

"For one thing, *ang* target market *ng mga* producers *ng* soaps *ay ang* common people, the masses. *Ang masa naghahanap ng mga palabas kung saan sila makaka*-relate. *Kahit sa* movies, *gano'n din, gaya ng bidang* oppressed *na magiging vigilante o mayaman.*

"Given *lang din yung mga* channels *na pinapanood nila, kaya ano'ng* choice *meron sila? Maraming nanonood ng soaps kasi yun lang ang available."—Jeane Paul Reñez, 17.*

Housewives

"*Yung karaniwang nanonood kasi ng mga* soaps *ay mga* housewives *at katulong. Nasa bahay kasi sila at 'pag walang ginagawa, e di manonood ng* soap opera. *Ang mga* soaps *may isang* theme *lang at may* appeal *sa atin yung gano'n. Mahilig din ang Pinoy sa tsismis, kaya gustong-gustong pinag-uusapan ang mga nangyayari sa* soaps.

"*Lahat ng* soaps, *may* element *ng* love. *Gustong-gusto yun ng marami dahil sa kilig* effect. *Hindi* designed *para pag-isipan ang mga* soaps. *Wala silang* deeper meaning. *Kung anong nakikita mo, yun na yun.*

"*Para sa karamihan,* soaps *are just something to fill their time, something to talk about. Ang mga tao gustong malaman kung anong susunod na mangyayari sa mga* soaps, *kahit na alam nilang masaya pa rin ang* ending.

"*Sikat na sikat ang mga* soaps *kasi malakas ang publicity na binibigay sa kanila, meron pa ngang mga* mall tours *ang mga artista nila. Marami ding nanonood ng* soap opera *sa* Mexico *kasi may pagkapareho ang kultura nila sa kultura natin. Sa soaps nakaka*-relate *ang mga tao at ang mga soaps ang nagbibigay sa kanila ng* hope."*—Daneelyn Querijero, 21.*

Hardships

"Pinoys are fond of drama, they want the things that happen to soap opera characters to happen to them, too. Many people also relate to the hardships that the characters usually undergo. Some don't have anything to do with their time except to watch soaps, maybe because they like a particular actor or actress. It's cheaper to watch soaps than movies, and they're also longer and have more plot twists."*—Anna Fe Luna, 17.*

Live entertainment . . .

From p. F3

one lasting about an hour) he explains, So they are able to shuttle between two places.

Pido with Take One specializes in pop music that ranges from '70s classics to current Top 40s. Pido prepares the band's repertoire for a three-set gig. They make a few adjustments during the show, based on the type of crowd they're playing for. "We try to give them what they want," he smiles, adding that they also accommodate requests.

Regular gig

It also helps, says Pido, if they check out the venue first before committing themselves to a regular gig. This way, the band would know the right mix of songs to play. It could be more classic pop for the beyond-25 set, or mostly contemporary hits if it's a younger crowd. They also do a few boy-band covers, he winks.

There are times, though, that the audience is diverse, such as the case at Beezer's Bite, which attracts both yuppies and college kids. Pido explains that they usually start off with their prepared line-up of songs, and if the response is good, the show goes on as planned.

Still, Pido prays for a few more blessings: "That there will be more venues that will cater to different kinds of music. That people will listen to new and original songs. And that piracy will stop!"

—*That* will happen only if nobody buys fake goods!

Colin Hanks makes . . .

From p. F1

rules, which are not of his own devising.

So, he's opted out of the stellar race, and the temptation to prove that he's even better than his dad. Instead, he's simply focused on doing justice to his role, and to the film that has given him his best showcase to date.

Why, of all the scripts that have been sent to him, did he choose to do "Orange County?" Colin: "When I was reading it, I laughed out loud many times. It was unlike any script I'd ever read—a really great comedy with sharply-drawn characters.

Farce

"It was almost like a play, a farce in which all these different characters interact, but in a fresh way. As I read it, I really wanted to find out what happened to all of them, not just to my character."

When Colin started to shoot his scenes for the film, he was even more gratified to discover that the production had more than its great script going for it:

"Working with stars like Gerry Marshall, Harold Ramis, John Lithgow, Catherine O'Hara, Chevy Chase and Lily Tomlin—it was unbelievable! I learned from every single one of them, and I was so lucky because I had scenes with almost all of the veteran actors in the movie. There's not a class I could have taken to get the knowledge I learned from them just by being in this movie."

With acting "coaches" like those, and a star-making movie finally in hand, Colin Hanks is clearly on his way—with or without Papa Tom.

Live club gigs sustain musicians

By Jocelyn Valle

THERE'S a new bar in town, Beezer's Bite on Jupiter st. in Makati City, and nobody's happier than the musicians whose bread and butter is live entertainment. The recording industry used to be a great help. It provided additional income for session work.

Bar owners

Also, it was a big boost for a fledgling band to get noticed by bar owners and concert producers, especially if it was able to create a hit song.

Unfortunately, the seemingly unstoppable trade of illegal CDs and cassette tapes is killing the music industry. Record companies now limit their production, concentrating on name artists who have ready and loyal followings, and deciding not to gamble on new and untested singers or bands.

Pido Lalimarmo, vocalist and guitarist of Pido with Take One (it has an MCA-released self-titled album to its name), remains optimistic. He believes that the band scene, which exploded in the early '90s, has assimilated mainstream music and will therefore not fade away like other fad.

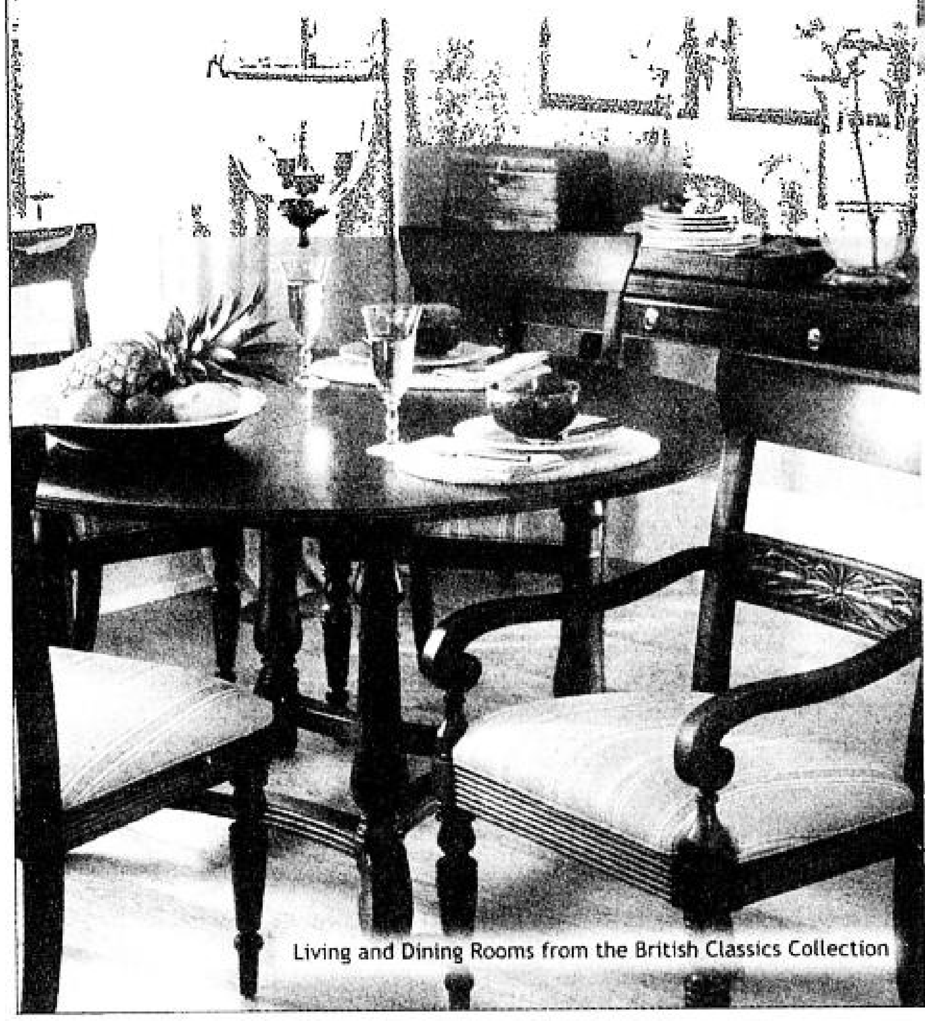
Lounges

He points out that bands energize the lounges, bars and party places that keep popping up in cities all over the country. In Metro Manila, the trend is the development of an area that can be a one-stop entertainment and dining zone (think Eastwood City in Libis, Rockwell in Makati City, even The Loop at the 9501 building of ABS-CBN).

His band, says Pido, has gigs six nights a week. Sometimes, they even play in two venues in a single night. There is a break in between their sets (usually two to three; each

LIVE/ p. F2

PIDO WITH TAKE ONE. Popular band performs six nights a week.



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LIBRE

‘Sundin and Loob Mo’ starts performance tour

By Nestor U. Torre

“SUNDIN and Loob Mo,” the news play on the life of Padre Pio, had its first performance in Parañaque last June 12. It sponsor was a Filipino devotee of Padre Pio who had the rare privilege of meeting the stigmatist-priest in his monastery in Italy in the ’60s.

Canonized

When he heard that Padre Pio was about to be canonized as the Catholic Church’s newest saint, he looked for a way to honor him and make his beautiful, inspiring life better known beyond simply passing *estampitas* around.

That more dynamic and affecting way he found by sponsoring the first staging of the new touring production, the mounting of which was motivated by other Padre Pio devotees in the Philippines.

After the play was performed, the sponsor expressed his delight at what he described as its informed and inspired depiction of Padre Pio’s dramatic and instructive life. He expressed the wish that the play would be performed all over the country, so that more people could be exposed to Padre Pio’s teachings, and transform their own lives.

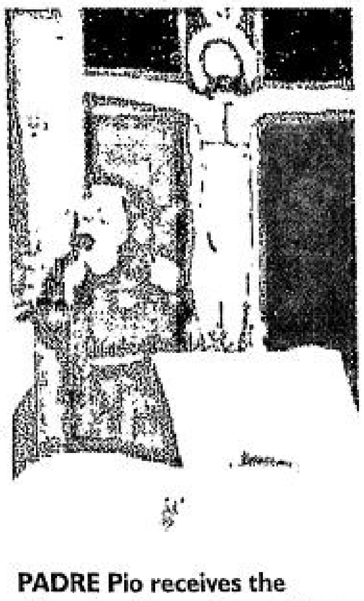
True enough, “Sundin and Loob Mo” was performed again four days later, on June 16, the very day that Padre Pio was being canonized a saint at the Vatican. To the people involved in the production, it was important that the play be performed that day, as the Philippines’ offering to Padre Pio on his day of all days.

Special day

But where should it be performed? The play could have been staged at the Manila Cathedral or some other major religious venue, but the cast chose to perform it on that special day for the urban-poor community of the Parokya ng Mabuting Pastol in the Commonwealth-Fairview area in Quezon City.

This was in recognition of Padre Pio’s love for “ordinary” people, a love that enabled him to hear confessions for as long as 15 hours in one day, so that he could be of greater help to the spiritually disenfranchised.

AS a boy, Pio was terrorized by devils who tried to weaken his faith.



PADRE Pio receives the stigmata after seeing a vision of the crucified Christ.

This was also very much in keeping with Padre Pio’s concern for the sick and suffering poor, which prompted him to put up the huge charity hospital in San Giovanni Rotondo that has served hundreds of thousands of patients to date.

But, why *this* particular urban-poor community? Years ago, the same theater artists behind “Sundin and Loob Mo” performed the popular musical play “Magnificat” at the Mabuting Pastol parish, as a fundraiser to complete the construction of the parish’s church.

Parish priest

The parish priest of Mabuting Pastol, Fr. Guido Everaert, CICM, became well-loved by the members of the cast, so when the time came to decide on the venue for the special Canonization Day performance of the play on Padre Pio, the cast unanimously decided on the church of Parokya ng Mabuting Pastol.

Significance

When the actors and production crew arrived at the church on the morning of June 16, they couldn’t help but be moved. This was the church that their performance of “Magnificat” three years ago had helped complete, and the significance was not lost on them as they started to mount their new play at the elevated altar area.

There were many limitations, like they had to make-do with the church’s minimal sound and lights equipment, but that didn’t adversely affect the production. When the play was performed after the 6:30 p.m. mass, its scenes communicated strongly with the audience despite the technical limitations, and many viewers were moved.

After the performance, the actors were enthusiastically thanked by members of the audience, who expressed their gratitude for being able to empathetically experience Padre Pio’s saintly life on the very day of his canonization.

Other parishes

They said they would tell their friends in other parishes to sponsor other performances of the play in churches and in schools, to further inspire other Catholics to be as loving and devoted as Padre (now Saint Pio) was.

Fr. Guido was similarly appreciative and supportive, and said he would tell other CICM parish priests about the production. Similarly, other devotees of Saint Pio have lined up performances in Cavite, Cebu, Masbate, La Union, Pampanga, Loyola Heights and other places in Metro Manila.

If you want “Sundin ang Loob Mo” performed in your locality, parish, school or office, please call Pablo at 713-9323 and 0917-9893089.

Cogie Domingo acts with Juday for the first time in ‘Pakisabi na Lang . . .’

DOMINGO. Plays a track and field athlete in his new movie.

By Edmund L. Sicam

> The young star has decided to limit his show biz activities so he can go back to school this September

COGIE Domingo is starring in a new movie opposite Judy Ann Santos, “Pakisabi Na Lang… Mahal Ko Siya.” Was this movie easy to do? “I think it was—*dahil sa mga katrabaho ko. Masaya silang kasama*.”

But it was tiring as well, since Cogie plays a track and field athlete. Is he an athlete in real life? “When I was young, I used to be in track and field *sa* school. 100 meter dash. I used to play tennis din, but for a while *lang. Ngayon,* more basketball.”

Impression

This is Cogie’s first time to work with Juday. What was his impression of Juday before they met? “Star!” But, after working with her? “*Hindi*, she’s down to earth. *Madaling kausap*. But she’s just quiet at times.” He has a kissing scene with Juday in the movie—what was that like? “It was nothing . . . *trabaho lang talaga*.”

Cogie’s been in show business since he was 13 years old—“I enjoyed working *nung bata pa ako—hindi ko iniisip yung pera. Pero* now, *pag pumapasok na yung mga* career handlers *ko . . . eto na ang* priorities *mo . . . seryoso na*.”

Now that it’s getting really serious, Cogie has decided to “lie low” for awhile. Not to say he’s disappearing completely, he’s just going to stick to one TV show, some TV guestings and a movie. “I have to go back to school,” he explains.

The young actor starts 9th Grade at Brent this September. “I think I was giving too much, too soon. *Minsan, napapagod na ako. Dito nga, sa* movie *na ito*, I had to come from Subic, *na*-late *na naman ako. Parang* domino effect. I can handle my time, *masyadong marami lang talaga ang ginagawa ko. Minsan, nakakahilo*. So I said, lie low *na muna*. School *muna*.”

Favorite subject

But doesn’t he think studying is a waste, since he’s already earning? “No, I think it’s part of life to grow up and study and finish school. You study for knowledge. *At pag mawala sa yo ang trabahong ito, marami pang ibang magagawa*, because you went to school.” His favorite subject is Science. “I like observing, experimenting with things.”

So, how about his love life? “*Wala pa akong* girlfriend. But I’m seeing someone—from show biz.” When asked who, Cogie answers, “*Sabi ko hindi ko muna ibubulgar*. until I’m sure *kung kami na*.”

Maybe we can get clues about who she is: what type of girls does he go for, anyway? “*Gusto ko* sweet, *pero gusto ko rin* at the same time, *mataray. Kasi* it’s hard to get a girl who’s *mataray. Hindi lang yun . . . kunyari naging kayo na. Mataray siya dati, tapos* sweet *na siya sa iyo ngayon*. No one else can come close to her *dahil mataray nga siya. Alam mo na kaya niya ang sarili niya*.”

Privacy

Isn’t it a risk, getting involved with a show biz personality? “I know, *kaya ayokong sabihin, e. Gusto ko talaga ng* non-show biz.

“You have no privacy when you get involved with someone from show biz. *Kaya mas gusto ko sana kung hindi show biz—kaya lang, tinira ako ni Kupido, wala akong magagawa, di ba?*”

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SATURDAY Special

Adam Sandler scores good 'Deeds' debut with $37.2 million

LOS ANGELES—Adam Sandler's "Mr. Deeds," about a local yokel who is sole heir to a $40 billion fortune, inherited the weekend box-office crown.

Remake

A remake of Frank Capra's "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," the movie debuted in the No. 1 spot with $37.2 million. The weekend's other new wide release, the animated "Hey Arnold! The Movie," had a weak debut of $5.7 million, coming in at No. 6.

The top 20 movies at North American theaters Friday through Sunday:

1. "Mr. Deeds," Sony, $37.2 million, 3,231 locations, $11,502 average, $37.2 million, one week.
2. "Minority Report," Fox, $21.6 million, 3,001 locations, $7,194 average, $73.4 million, two weeks.
3. "Lilo & Stitch," Disney, $21.5 million, 3,222 locations, $6,678 average, $77.1 million, two weeks.

'Scooby-Doo'

4. "Scooby-Doo," Warner Bros., $12.4 million, 3,447 locations, $3,586 average, $124 million, three weeks.
5. "The Bourne Identity," Universal, $11.2 million, 2,663 locations, $4,205 average, $72.9 million, three weeks.
6. "Hey Arnold! The Movie," Paramount, $5.7 million, 2,527 locations, $2,258 average, $5.7 million, one week.
7. "The Sum of All Fears," Paramount, $4.9 million, 2,486 locations, $1,954 average, $105.4 million, five weeks.
8. "Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood," Warner Bros., $4.1 million, 2,167 locations, $1,870 average, $55.4 million, four weeks.
9. "Star Wars: Episode II—Attack of the Clones," Fox, $3.7 million, 1,801 locations, $2,037 average, $286.3 million, seven weeks.
10. "Windtalkers," MGM, $3.5 million, 2,529 locations, $1,384 average, $33.2 million, three weeks.
11. "Spider-Man," Sony, $3.1 million, 1,810 locations, $1,729 average, $395.9 million, nine weeks.
12. "Juwanna Mann," Warner Bros., $2.6 million, 1,325 locations, $1,969 average, $10.1 million, two weeks.
13. "My Big Fat Greek Wedding," IFC Films, $2 million, 493 locations, $4,061 average, $19.3 million, 11 weeks.

Insomnia

14. "Insomnia," Warner Bros., $1.1 million, 866 locations, $1,272 average, $63.7 million, six weeks.
15. "About a Boy," Universal, $939,770, 696 locations, $1,350 average, $38.9 million, seven weeks.
16. "Undercover Brother," Universal, $870,165, 802 locations, $1,085 average, $37.4 million, five weeks.
17. "Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron," DreamWorks, $752,185, 1,079 locations, $697 average, $70.4 million, six weeks.
18. "Bad Company," Disney, $751,414, 825 locations, $911 average, $28.3 million, four weeks.
19. "Space Station," IMAX, $573,939, 55 locations, $10,435 average, $10.6 million, 11 weeks.
20. "The Importance of Being Earnest," Miramax, $469,265, 208 locations, $2,256 average, $5 million, six weeks. *AP*

SANDLER, right, plays the sole heir to a $40-billion fortune in "Mr. Deeds."

Tommy Abuel plays pivotal role

By Nestor U. Torre

ABUEL. No choice but to find love in the arms of a relative stranger.

SEIKO Films' latest production, "Bakat," has more than its sexy scenes featuring Diana Zubiri, Rodel Velayo and Ana Capri going for it. The movie is distinguished by the strong performances turned in by veteran actors Tommy Abuel, Daria Ramirez and Rita Avila.

These experienced actors usually do only "background" or "cameo" work in other productions, but here they're given scenes that they can sink their thespic chops into.

Guts and heart

Without them, the movie would lose much

TOMMY/ p. G2

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YOUR WEEKLY TV GUIDE FROM JULY 6 - JULY 12

CH	2	4	5	7	9	13	23	29	E13
	5:30 Magandang Gabi, Bayan 7:00 Smart Ka Na Ba? 7:30 Arriba, Arriba 8:30 Mary d' Potter 9:30 Klasmeyts 10:30 Sapul Kayo Dyan 11:00 "F" 11:30 Sports Unlimited	3:00 Value Vision 6:00 MBA 11:00 Business and Leisure	6:30 Wing Commander 7:00 Sailormoon Sailor Stars 7:30 Family Feud 8:30 Wow Mali! 9:30 Saturday Night *Desert Steel*	5:30 Hunter X Hunter 6:00 Imbestigador 7:00 Idol Ko Si Kap 8:00 Kakabakaba 9:00 Pinoy Blockbuster *Dunkin Donato* 11:00 Master Showman	6:00 Entertainment Tonite 6:30 Hot Ticket 7:00 Largo 8:00 7 Days 9:00 Saturday Night Playhouse *Star Olympics Part III*	8:00 Star For A Night 9:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 10:00 Viva Box Office 11:00 IBC Elorde	6:00 Travel Time 6:30 Digital Tour 7:00 Explorer 7:30 Early Edition 8:30 Gilmore Girls 9:30 Studio 23 Presents	7:00 Xclusive Cinema Special 9:00 Oras Ng Katotohanan 9:30 Armor of God 10:00 Oh Tokyo 11:00 Pinoy Wrestling	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! Coming Attractions 7:00 Women of . . . 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Celebrity Profile
	5:30 Sharon 7:00 Wansapanataym 8:30 Home Along Da Riles 9:30 Sunday Family Cinemas 11:30 Off The Record 12:00 The Weekend News	6:00 Fox News 9:00 NBA 11:30 Unlimited Diving	6:00 Zorro 6:30 Guyferd 7:00 Price Is Right 8:00 Sing-Galing 9:00 The Big Night *Imaginary Crimes*	5:30 Partners Mel & Jay 7:00 KI 8:00 Txtrs 5 8:30 Daddy Di Do Du 9:30 Sunday Night Box Office *Lethal Weapon 4* 11:30 Che-Che Lazaro Presents	6:00 Entertainment This Weekend 7:00 Ripley's Believe It or Not 8:00 Match TV 9:00 Sunday's Big Event *The Champions* 11:00 Road Trip 11:30 Sunday Report	4:00 PBA Game 1 6:00 PBA Game 2 8:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire? 9:00 Sinemaks	6:00 Rugrats 6:30 Starship Troopers 7:00 Batman Beyond 7:30 Futurama 8:00 Grosse Pointe 8:30 Veronica's Closet 9:00 Will & Grace 9:30 Temptation Island 10:30 Twilight Zone	7:00 Sunday Mini-Series 8:00 Oh Tokyo 9:00 Sunday Night movies	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! Coming Attractions 7:00 E! Original Special 8:00 Ranked All Times 9:00 Revealed w/ Jules Asner
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 7:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 8:00 Sa Puso ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:00 FPJ Action Cinema 10:30 Headlines 11:00 The Correspondents	4:00 PBL 6:00 Fox News 8:00 TeleDyaryo 10:00 PBL	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 F 7:00 Mahha Go Go Go 7:30 Kool on Kam 8:30 Poltergeist: The Legacy 9:30 Trabaho Lang 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Two	6:00 Saksi 7:00 Kung Mawawala Ka 7:30 Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 GMA's Best *Angels in the Endzone* 10:30 Front Page 11:00 I-Witness	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 World's Most Amazing Videos 8:00 Jag 9:00 24 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment tonight 11:00 Sex & The City	6:00 Viva's Hot Hits! 8:00 Crayon Shin Chan 8:30 Kurochan 9:00 The Weakest Link 10:00 Carita de Angel 10:30 Por Un Beso 11:00 News	5:30 Beat UK 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Hidden Camera 8:00 Dark Angel 9:00 Charmed 10:00 News Central 10:30 Points of View	6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Live 7:00 Celebrity Adventures 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 E! News Live 9:30 Talk Soup 10:00 Best of Late Show 11:00 Wild On
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 7:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 8:00 Sa Puso ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:00 OK Fine! Whatever 10:30 Headlines 11:00 Pipol	4:00 Value Vision 6:00 Fox News 8:00 TeleDyaryo 10:00 Pulsong Masa 11:00 Auto Focus	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 Dragon League 7:00 2 Years Vacation w/ Dinosaurs 7:30 Kool on Kam 8:30 E.R. 9:30 Urban Doktor 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Mad TV	6:00 Saksi 7:00 Kung Mawawala Ka 7:30 Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 Kool Ka Lang 10:30 Front Page 11:00 Probe Team	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Ed 8:00 Ally McBeal 9:00 The Practice 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment tonight 11:00 NBI Files	6:00 PBA Games 8:00 PBA Games 10:00 The Weakest Link 11:00 News	5:30 Beat UK 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Popular 8:30 Angel 9:00 Just Shoot Me 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah	6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Ang Dating Daan	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Live 7:00 Extreme Close Up 7:30 Mysteries & Scandals 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 E! News Live 9:30 Talk Soup 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 7:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 8:00 Sa Puso ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:00 Whattamen 10:30 Headlines 11:00 Private Conversation	4:00 PBL 6:00 Fox News 8:00 TeleDyaryo 10:00 PBL	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 Pygmalio 7:00 Time Quest 7:30 Kool on Kam 8:30 Friends 9:00 That's 70's Show 9:30 Planet X 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Task Force Siyasat	6:00 Saksi 7:00 Kung Mawawala Ka 7:30 Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 Beh Bote Nga 10:30 Front Page 11:00 Jessica Soho Reports	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Higher Ground 8:00 Roswell 9:00 Fugitive 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment tonight 11:00 Wrestling	6:00 Kagat Ng Dilim 8:00 Crayon Shin Chan 8:30 Kurochan 9:00 The Weakest Link 10:00 Carita de Angel 10:30 Por Un Beso 11:00 News	5:30 Behind the Music 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Scariest Places on Earth 8:30 Game Plan 9:00 The District 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah	6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:30 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Live 7:00 Behind The Scenes 7:30 Mysteries & Scandals 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 E! News Live 9:30 Talk Soup 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 7:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 8:00 Sa Puso ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:00 Maalaala Mo Kaya 10:30 Headlines 11:00 Isyu 101	4:00 Value Vision 5:00 Patrol 117 6:00 Concert at the Park 7:00 Fox News 8:00 TeleDyaryo 10:00 NBA	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 Shulato 7:00 Fancy Lala 7:30 Kool on Kam 8:30 Guinness World Records 9:30 Single 10:00 The Big News 10:30 By Request	6:00 Saksi 7:00 Kung Mawawala Ka 7:30 Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 Daboy en Da Girl 10:30 Front Page 11:00 Debate w/ Mare and Pare	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 Clueless 7:30 Sister, Sister 8:00 Felicity 9:00 Once and Again 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 Entertainment Tonight	6:00 PBA Games 8:00 PBA Games 9:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire 11:00 News	5:30 MYX Concerts 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Barkada Nights 9:30 Night Visions 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah	6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Q Showcase 9:00 Ang Dating Daan 10:30 Q Showcase	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Live 7:00 Extreme Close Ups 7:30 Mysteries & Scandals 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 E! News Live 9:30 Talk Soup 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On
	6:00 TV Patrol 7:00 Game K N B? 7:30 Pangako sa 'Yo 8:00 Sa Puso ko, Iingatan Ka 8:30 Sa Dulo ng Walang Hanggan 9:00 Star Cinema Presents 10:30 Headlines 11:00 True Crime	4:00 PBL 6:00 Paco Park Presents 7:00 Fox News 8:00 TeleDyaryo 10:00 PBL	6:00 Balitang-Balita 6:30 Lazer Patrol 7:00 Starcom 7:30 Kool on Kam 8:30 Ispup 9:30 On-air 10:00 The Big News 10:30 Friday Box Office *Dazed and Confused*	6:00 Saksi 7:00 Kung Mawawala Ka 7:30 Sana Ay Ikaw Na Nga 8:00 Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin 8:30 Monica Brava 9:00 Bubble Gang 10:30 Front Page 11:00 Emergency	5:30 Arangkada Xtra Balita 6:00 Sin Ti 6:30 Real TV 7:00 That's Life 8:00 Malcolm In The Middle 8:30 Dharma & Greg 9:00 NYPD Blue 10:00 Newswatch Now 10:30 TV Greats On Friday *The Company*	8:00 Crayon Shin Chan 8:30 Kurochan 9:00 Who Wants To Be A Millionaire 10:00 Carita de Angel 10:30 Por Un Beso 11:00 News	5:30 Halo-Halo 6:30 Jenny Jones 7:30 Exposed 8:30 Survivor 9:00 Oh Grow Up!! 10:00 News Central 10:30 Oprah	6:30 Q Showcase 7:30 Oras ng Katotohanan 8:00 Ang Dating Daan	6:00 CBS Evening News 6:30 E! News Live 7:00 Behind The Scenes 7:30 Mysteries & Scandals 8:00 E! True Hollywood Story 9:00 E! News Live 9:30 Talk Soup 10:00 David Letterman 11:00 Wild On

Gary Valenciano performs at Hard Rock Café

VALENCIANO. Also interested in directing and cinematography.

By Edmund L. Sicam

GARY Valenciano performs at Hard Rock Café on July 12 in the "Gary V one2one Concert," as drawn from his recent album of duets with the country's top female singers. Weeks ago, he was at Virgin Café for another intimate concert series.

Small venues

We asked the singer why he's been concentrating on smaller venues lately. Gary's candid answer: "I am 37 years old. I don't know how long I can keep dancing. The bigger the stage, the bigger the movement required. However, I'm into a lot of video editing now and that's exactly what concerts are today. The attention span of the audience is so short, you gotta fill up the stage with a lot of audio-visual effects.

"As far as concerts go, I haven't reached the ultimate where my lights, sounds and everything I do are all in sync—a total show. Because I'm 37, I may have to change my routine. My concerts may still be high-impact but it may not be me dancing. It may be me producing sounds in a different way."

While other singers may be fiercely competitive, Gary feels differently. "I don't compete. I don't do something because I wanna be No. 1. I wanna do this because it's gonna look good."

He was supposed to a concert later this year with Martin Nievera, whom many believe to be his closest rival on the concert scene. The plan fizzled out because their schedules wouldn't permit it. They'll both be in North America for a series of concerts.

Gary's spiritual endeavors are as much a part of him as his patented dance moves. While other singers have faded out from the scene to concentrate on evangelizing through their music, Gary has managed to balance his religious activities and his career. Doesn't it hinder his growth as a pop star?

"It's actually enhancing it," he stresses. "Many of my inspirational songs are cinematic arrangements so I'm able to use them for my pop songs. I was able to use sacred music for a movie, 'Hinugot sa Dilim,' which I scored."

Conflict

The only time a conflict arises is: H e says he will never sing "Sex Bomb" as well as other sexually-suggestive songs. He will definitely not do any of Eminem's songs. However, he realizes that the singer's works reflect the yearning of the youth to be heard. "No matter how dirty his lyrics are, it pays to listen and understand what the young are trying to tell us."

Despite his busy schedule, Gary finds time to interact with his teen kids. He says parenting requires a lot patience. He takes the trouble to discuss important issues with them and make sure their questions are answered.

One writer brought up the subject of his wife-manager Angeli and the bad press she's been getting. Gary says his wife has often been misunderstood. "Any manager would have to do the stuff she's doing. There are times when I hear people saying things about her when all she wanted was a contract to protect her artist, or a script or a good schedule for an artist who needs a pacemaker.

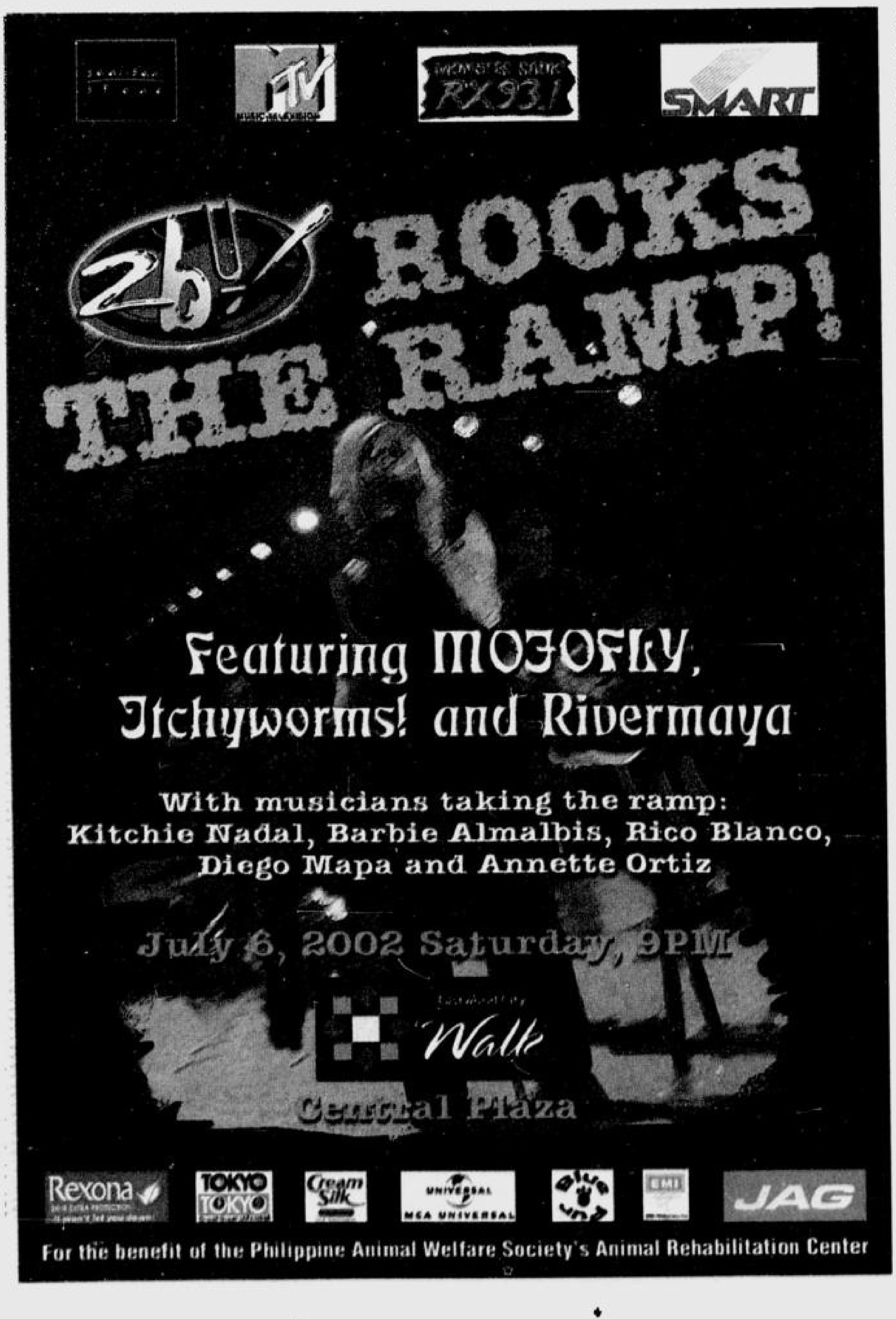
"If you really get to know her, sit down with her on a project that needs her expertise. There are companies that tell me, 'When your wife came into the picture, everything turned out right.'"

He says much of the stuff written about her is out-and-out fabrication. "We've confronted the writer of that article, who admitted making up the whole thing."

Damaging stuff

Gary then talked about a writer who wrote damaging stuff about his wife, so much so that his brother-in-law (Senator Kiko Pangilinan) advised her to take legal action. So she pressed charges. "This writer dreamt about his mom, who had passed away. His mom told him in his dream 'Why are you tormenting this mother? She's just like me.' He came to the office in tears with a cake, apologizing for what he had written. Today, they're on good terms."

As far as his professional growth is concerned, Gary's biggest dream is to study audio engineering at Full Sail, which is located in Florida. He's often frustrated when he's unable to get what he wants in the recording studio. He also wants to expand his horizons and use his knowledge of sound in the other media, like movies and television. He's interested in directing and cinematography. But no, he has no plans of giving up his singing career. That's something that will always be with him.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Tommy Abuel plays . . .

From p. G1

of its guts and heart.

We're particularly happy that Tommy Abuel has been given one of his best recent movie roles in this production. He plays the pivotal role of Rodel's father and Diana's husband, a truly conflicted position for his character to be in, and the veteran actor takes full advantage of the dramatic highlights that his many scenes in the film provide.

Tommy, Daria and Rita can thank their lucky stars that producer Robbie Tan, screenwriter Luwalhati Bautista and director Francis "Jun" Posadas have given importance to their participation in this movie.

Short shrift

Most of the time, veteran stars are given short shrift, so that productions can devote most of their running time to scenes involving their bankable young stars.

In "Bakat," the distribution of scenes is more balanced, and the production bothers to give the senior characters complex motivations and emotional issues that the veteran actors can fully vivify.

In Tommy's case, he creates the character, not just of a mean and sexually competitive father, but a lonely man who has been disappointed in his children (Rodel and Rita), who disobeyed or deserted him when he needed their help most.

Being the very experienced thespian he is (he's been an actor since the '60s), Tommy takes full advantage of the complex character he's been given, and figures in some of the film's most dramatic and moving scenes.

Best moment

His best moment is when he and Rodel finally call a spade a spade and get to the bottom of their long bottled-up hurts and angers. When Rodel lashes out at him for marrying a much younger woman, Tommy tops him by pointing out that, since his children had drifted away from him, he really had no choice but to find love in the arms of a relative stranger.

In this scene, Tommy's entire body shakes with emotional pain, his eyes flare in the dark, and viewers finally understand his character's deep emotional bereavement.

It's unusual to see such intense emotional involvement in a "supporting" role in films. In fact, however, Tommy's character is more than just "supporting," it's a second-lead role, since the father is the third leg in the movie's love-triangle configuration.

Plays

The role could have been given to a veteran film actor with a "bigger" name, but it's likely that he wouldn't have done as well as Tommy. Aside from acting in films and on TV, Tommy has done many challenging lead roles in plays, and this has stretched his talent to the maximum, and made it relatively easy for him to tackle even his unusually demanding role in this movie.

We trust that other producers will give Tommy, Daria, Rita (and other gifted and experienced older actors) more opportunities to use their talent not just to "frame" young movie leads' performances, but also to come up with portrayals that are compelling in their own right. It's time to give our senior stars their thespic due!

Diana Krall is coming to town

By Marra PL. Lanot

KRALL. Loves performing live.

YES, she's coming. Diana who? She hails from maple country up north.

So do pop star Shania Twain, angst-ridden Alanis Morissette, sultry celeb Celine Dion, and Sarah MacLachlan of Lilith Fair fame. But unlike her Canadian compatriots, Diana Krall plays the piano while she dishes out standard jazz and bossa nova.

Awards

In 1997, Krall won a Soul Train Lady of Soul award for Best Jazz Album for Love Scenes. The same CD garnered a Juno Award for Best Mainstream Jazz Album. The Juno Awards, which are given out by the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (CARAS), are the Canadian equivalent of the Grammy Awards.

In 2002, Krall received the Juno Awards as Artist of the Year, and for Album of the Year (for The Look of Love) and Best Vocal Jazz Album of the Year (also for The Look of Love).

After several Grammy nominations, Krall was accorded the Grammy in 2000 for Best Jazz Vocal Performance for When I Look in Your Eyes.

Diana Krall was born on November 16, 1964, in Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada. She learned to play the piano at 4.

Although Krall started on the classics, she shifted to jazz as a teenager, and performed with a high school band. At 15, she played the piano professionally for three nights a week at a hockey bar in Nanaimo.

Scholarship

In 1981, Krall attended Berklee College of Music in Boston for a year and a half on a Vancouver Jazz Fest scholarship. She then returned to British Columbia where she formed a friendship with jazz musicians Ray Brown and Jeff Hamilton, who encouraged her to go to the United States.

With the help of a Canadian Arts Council grant, she studied in Los Angeles under the late jazz pianist Jimmy Rowles. In 1990, she moved to New York, and did gigs in Boston with a trio. She elicited praise at international music festivals and in her concerts.

Krall's first CD, "Steppin' Out" (Justin Time Records) was released in 1993. This was followed by "Only Trust Your Heart" (GRP Records) in 1995; "All for You," which is dedicated to her idol Nat "King" Cole, in 1996; and "Love Scenes" in 1997. "All for You" entered The New York Times' Top 10 Adult Pop Albums for 1996.

Besides Nat Cole, Krall acknowledges other influences such as Fats Waller, Ahmad Jamal, Sting, Frank Sinatra, and R&B. "My favorite singers," she reveals in a writeup, "all have played the piano: Dinah Washington, Roberta Flack, Shirley Horn, Andy Bee, Aretha Franklin, Sarah Vaughan, and especially Carmen McRae. She has really been important to me, and is one of my biggest influences. And Nat Cole was the *ultimate...*"

Performing for a live audience is Krall's cup of tea. This fondness of hers has brought her to various countries, and now she's coming to the Philippines. She will sing on July 22 at the Isla Ballroom, Edsa Shangri-la. Cocktails will be served at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., and the show begins at 8. Presented by ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc., the benefit concert is for the Save the La Mesa Watershed Project. (The La Mesa Watershed is the last remaining forest of its kind in Metro Manila.)

What to expect? Well, Diana Krall on her CD covers is the image of a girl-next-door looking sexy, who doesn't look like she'll buckle under stress.

Musical backdrop

The sound on her discs may accompany you in your tired moments and lull your frayed nerves until you sail to sleep. Or it may serve as a musical backdrop for a lively group discussion, for an intimate conversation or for reading a textbook or a novel without getting distracted by her.

Yes, there are rare surprises, like when a stress falls on the wrong syllable, when she slides upward to reach a note, when she goes falsetto, when she raises the volume of her voice a little bit, or when inspired interpretation breaks the rather consistently laid-back tone.

She doesn't appear to gather steam; she deflects fire and grief. She's cool, there's no cutting edge. In fact, her voice or her singing is like a stone smoothened by a cold stream.

She's good on the piano. And the fantastic instrumental arrangement makes up the kind of jazz that attracts both the young and the not-so-young. The appeal of her collections especially rests on her choice of songs. Some of those often cited by reviewers are: "The Look of Love," "The Boulevard of Broken Dreams," "Dancing in the Dark," "East of the Sun (And West of the Moon)," and "Cry Me a River."

Most interesting renditions include "When I Look in Your Eyes," "Peel Me a Grape," and "I'm an Errand Girl for Rhythm."

Unlike Barbra Streisand who has terrible stage fright and who has time and again announced quitting the stage, Diana Krall still plans to continue doing concerts. She also wants to complete an album of her favorite Christmas songs. At 37, Diana Krall is still full of dreams and may yet scale greater musical heights.

ArtFilm moves to Greenbelt

By Nestor U. Torre

LAST July 2, the ArtFilm cinema moved to the Greenbelt complex. The move was highlighted by the premiere screening of "Iris: A Memoir of Iris Murdoch."

High standard

To our mind, the film sets a high standard for the new ArtFilm's other offerings to match. Showing until July 9, the critically-acclaimed drama vivifies the enduring love between the celebrated British novelist Iris Murdoch and her husband, John Bayley.

That love is rigorously tested when Murdoch is afflicted with Alzheimer's disease.

Other attractions

ArtFilm's other attractions for July: July 10-16, "The King Is Alive." Eleven bus passengers take shelter from the elements in an abandoned desert town. As rescue grows more remote by the day, they think of the unthinkable: Why not stage a play?

They choose to do Shakespeare's "King Lear." However,' the choice of this play plunges the disparate group of travelers into turmoil as they struggle to overcome nature's wrath and their own mortality.

Fantasy and reality

July 17-23, "Storytelling." This film shuttles between fantasy and reality. The first part, "Fiction," is on creative writing students and their amorous adventures.

In the second, "Nonfiction," an aspiring documentary filmmaker follows the ups and downs of a dysfunctional suburban family.

Lead players include Selma Blair, Leo Fitzpatrick, Paul Giamatti, John Goodman and Julie Hagerty. Todd Solondz's film was officially selected for screening at the Cannes and New York film festivals.

July 24-30, "The Yin-Yang Master." A Japanese film about two noble families that compete for the emperor's favors. In their quest for power, they enlist the help of the Yin Yang Masters, Seimei and Doson.

Unforseen evil

However, an unforseen evil takes hold of Dawson, who wants the emperor's throne for himself. It's now up to Seimei to stop him. Yojiro Takita's film topbills Mansai Nomura, Hideaki Ito, Hiroyuki Sanada, Kyoko Koizumi and Eriko Emai.

We hope that ArtFilm will screen other Asian films, to bring local viewers up to snuff on the high level of filmmaking now obtaining in our region. This could motivate our own cinema artists to make even better movies in film seasons to come.

Good scripts win Oscars for bankable stars

By Behn Cervantes

STREISAND. Put up Seven Stars Productions with other luminaries.

BY THE mid-'50s in Hollywood, the Big Studio days were about to end. The overhead expenses for maintaining those huge studios were awesome and impossible to meet. Furthermore, Hollywood now faced the challenge of the "boob" tube.

That little television screen had won over some of film's erstwhile die-hard fans. They could now watch some of the stars in the comfort of their homes. In due time, this turned some of them into couch potatoes.

European films were also eating up part of the worldwide market. Production costs were lower in Italy, France, Spain and England. Exotic and sexy European stars as well as the neo-realist approach of renowned Italian and French directors had gained popular American support.

Stark realities

Cinematic tastes were a-changing after the trauma of two World Wars. The world of Oz was challenged by the stark realities of La Dolce Vita.

The studio formulas that sustained Hollywood for decades no longer worked at the box office. It was therefore time to throw in the financial towel and call it quits.

Independent producers took up the cudgels for producing films. Gone were the big, glamorous and powerful days of M-G-M, Warner Brothers, Twentieth Century-Fox, Universal International and Republic studios. Contract stars, often dissatisfied with studio control, now chose projects more to their liking. They did them at their own pace and desired price.

Perfect timing

It was perfect timing. Here were all these talented actors with a supply of finely-written scripts ready to be filmed by daring young producers with a fresh vision of the art and commerce of cinema.

Barbra Streisand, Paul Newman, Sidney Poitier and other box-office draws put up Seven Stars Productions in the late '60s. This powerful combination of bankable stars collected some of the best-written scripts for their perusal and consideration. There were many good scripts, indeed. There was a wonderful melding of supply and demand with the actors who had the clout to produce films that were to their liking.

Thus, began the years when bankable stars would flesh out good scripts that merited acting award nominations, or the actual statuettes themselves.

To highlight the difference between today and the Big Studio days, let's recall a few great careers: Henry Fonda was one of the most respected of Hollywood's dramatic talents. But only after 60 decades, most of them under Big Studio contract, did he finally win that much-coveted Oscar for "On Golden Pond."

Final victory

Clearly, sentimentalism had a role in his final victory since he won it when he was on his deathbed.

On the other hand, his talented daughter Jane Fonda, an influential star and producer, had already chalked up a number of nominations and brought home two Oscars in the span of seven years. She brought home the bacon for "Klute" in 1971 and "Coming Home" in 1978.

For a decade she was consistently being nominated for the annual Academy Awards, not to mention the citations and awards she received from other award-giving bodies, like the Golden Globe. *(To be concluded)*

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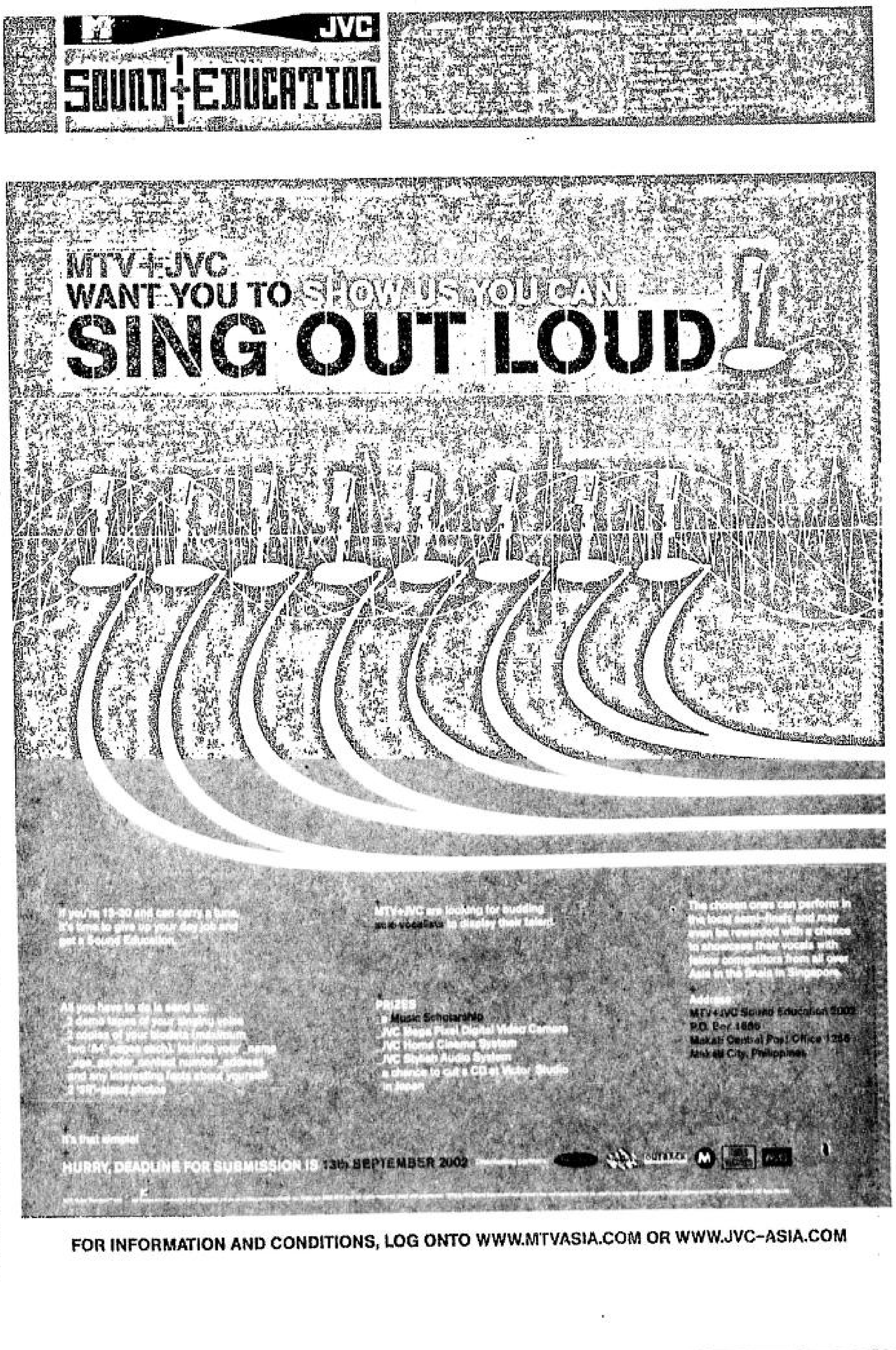

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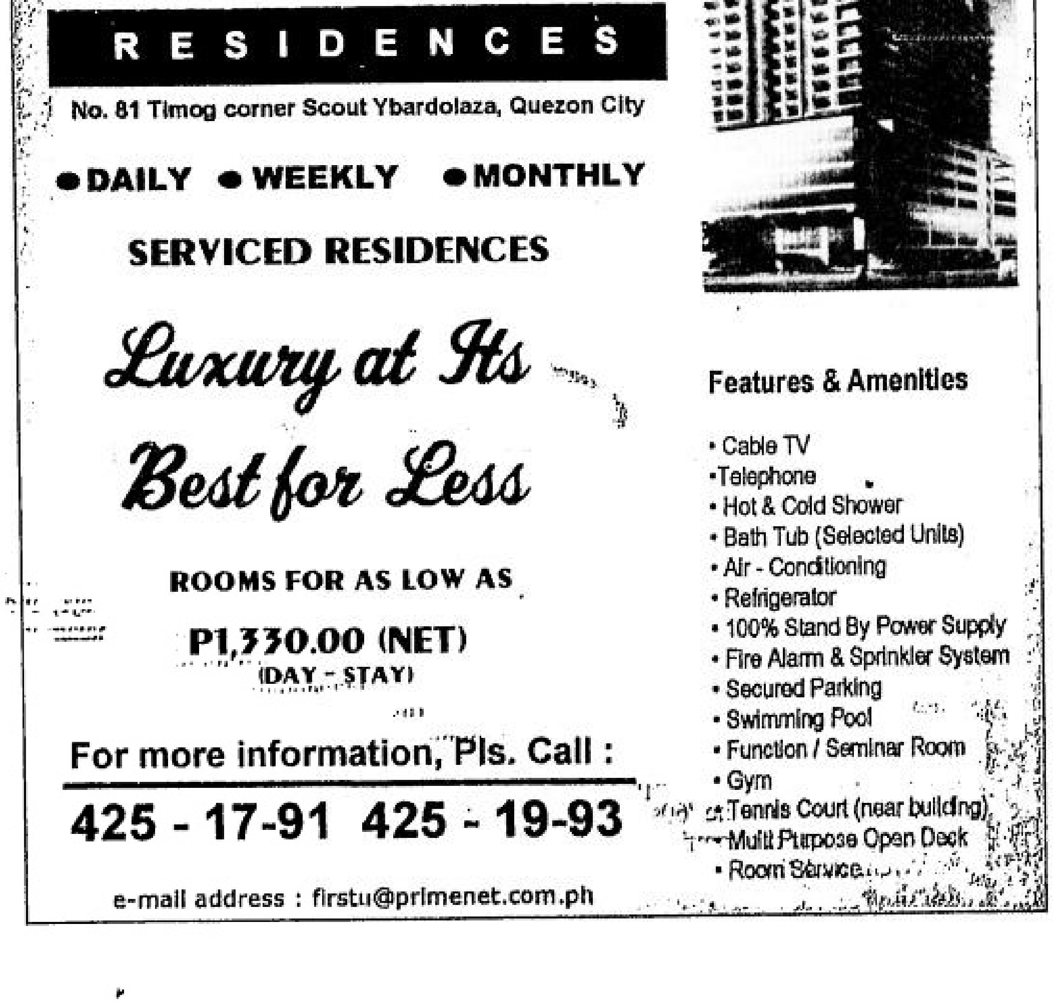

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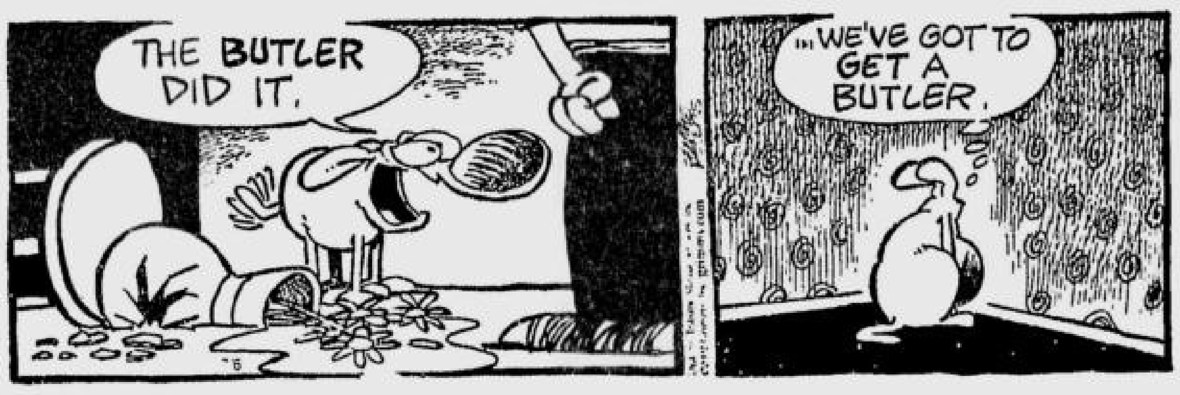
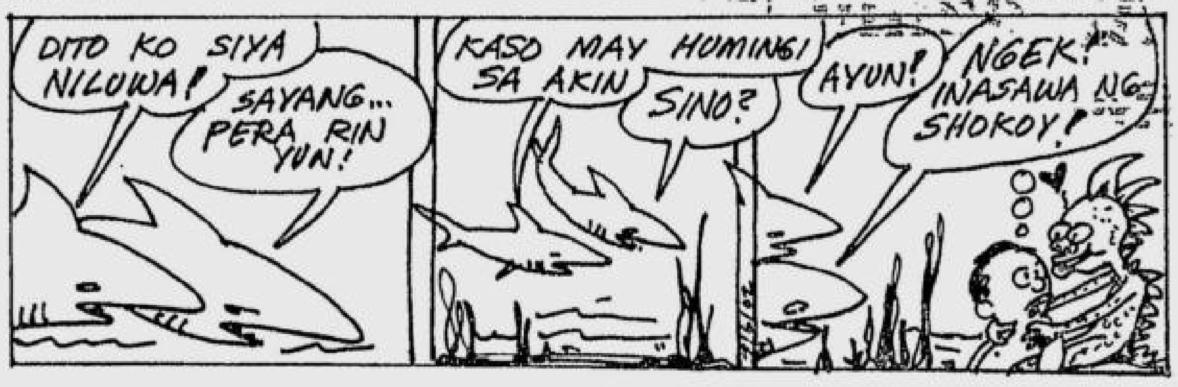
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


THE BUTLER DID IT.
...WE'VE GOT TO GET A BUTLER.

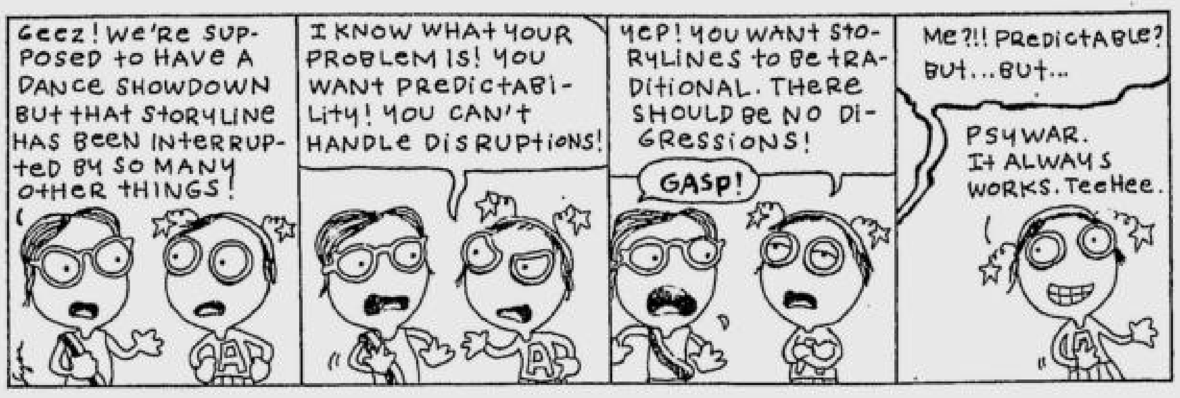
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


DITO KO SIYA NILUWA!
SAYANG... PERA RIN YUN!
KASO MAY HUMINGI SA AKIN
SINO?
AYUN!
NGEK! INASAWA NG SHOKOY!

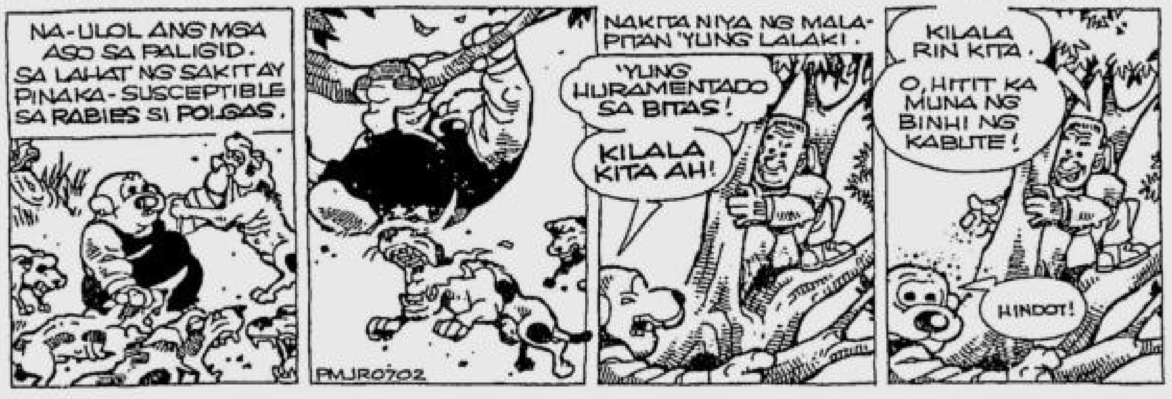
ATOMO AND WEBOY

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


Geez! We're supposed to have a dance showdown but that storyline has been interrupted by so many other things!
I know what your problem is! You want predictability! You can't handle disruptions!
Yep! You want storylines to be traditional. There should be no digressions!
GASP!
Me?!! Predictable? But...but...
PSYWAR. It always works. TeeHee.

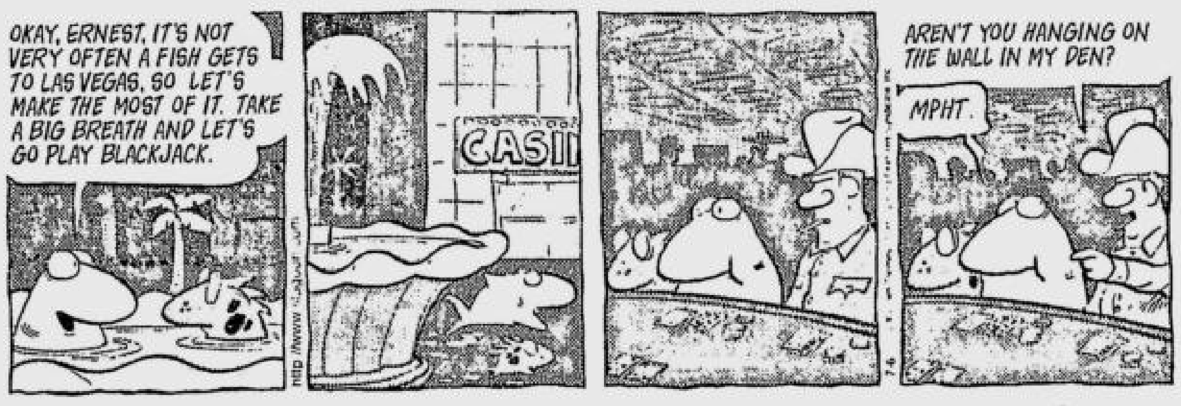
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


NA-ULOL ANG MGA ASO SA PALIGID. SA LAHAT NG SAKIT AY PINAKA-SUSCEPTIBLE SA RABIES SI POLGAS.
PMJR0702
NAKITA NIYA NG MALAPITAN 'YUNG LALAKI.
'YUNG HURAMENTADO SA BITAS!
KILALA KITA AH!
KILALA RIN KITA.
O, HITIT KA MUNA NG BINHI NG KABUTE!
HINDOT!

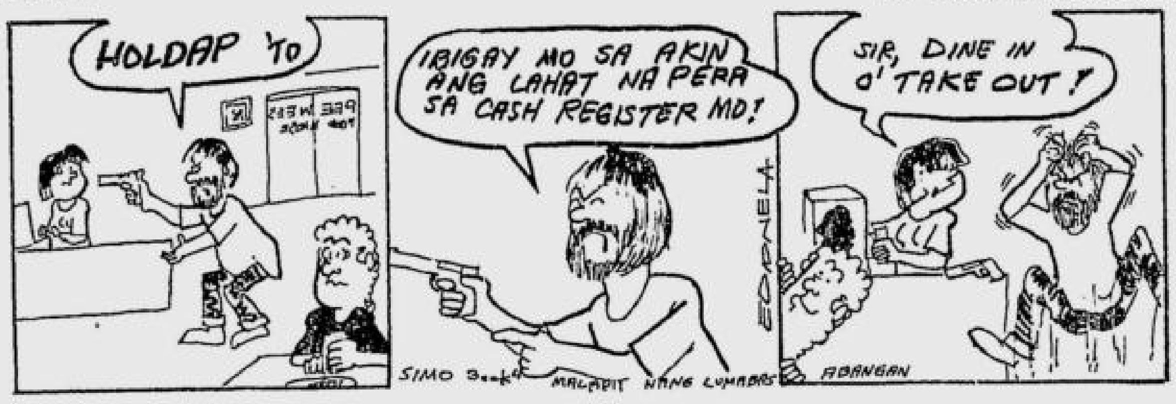
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


OKAY, ERNEST, IT'S NOT VERY OFTEN A FISH GETS TO LAS VEGAS, SO LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF IT. TAKE A BIG BREATH AND LET'S GO PLAY BLACKJACK.
CASI
AREN'T YOU HANGING ON THE WALL IN MY DEN?
MPHT.

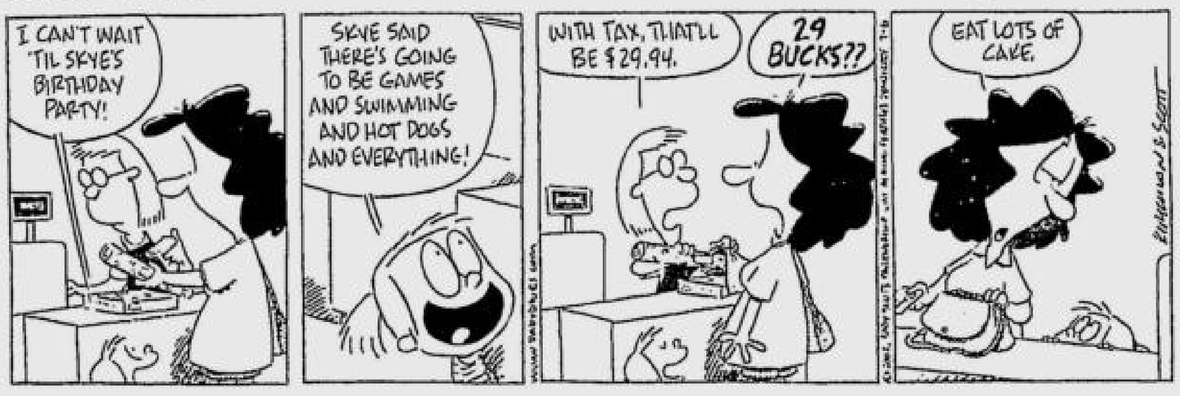
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


HOLDAP 'TO
IBIGAY MO SA AKIN ANG LAHAT NA PERA SA CASH REGISTER MO!
SIR, DINE IN O' TAKE OUT?
MALAPIT NANG LUMABAS
ABANGAN

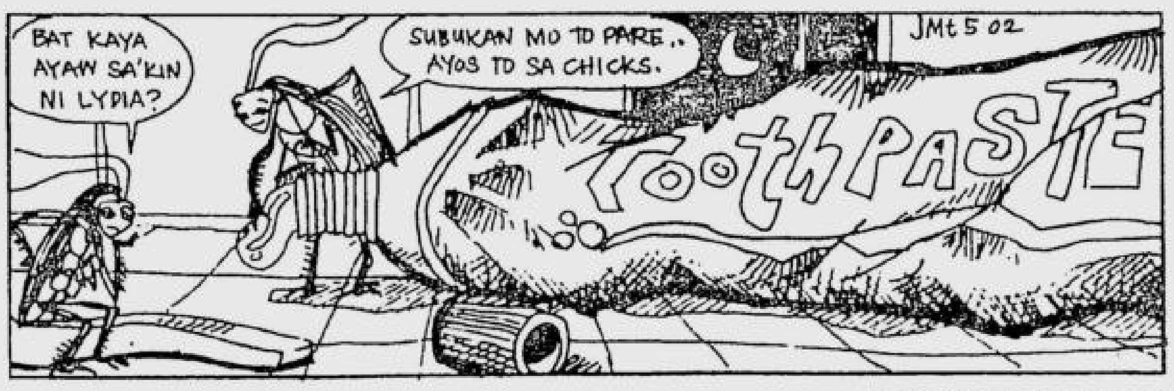
BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


I CAN'T WAIT 'TIL SKYE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY!
SKYE SAID THERE'S GOING TO BE GAMES AND SWIMMING AND HOT DOGS AND EVERYTHING!
WITH TAX, THAT'LL BE $29.94.
29 BUCKS??
EAT LOTS OF CAKE.

MIKROKOSMOS

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO


BAT KAYA AYAW SA'KIN NI LYDIA?
SUBUKAN MO TO PARE.. AYOS TO SA CHICKS.
JMt 5 02
Toothpaste

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Merv Griffin, Sylvester Stallone, Janet Leigh, George W. Bush

Happy Birthday: You will easily win the hearts of those you encounter this year. Jealousy and intrigue could be your downfall if you aren't careful. Let your creative senses develop this year. Your personal partnership will be going through some unusual changes but the end result will be positive. Your numbers are 8, 19, 27, 29, 40, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): An interesting investment or a great deal on a piece of land may surface. You will get bored quickly today so make sure that you have scheduled enough activity to hold your interest.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A visit to a friend or relative will be rewarding. Don't let others pay your way even if you are short of cash. Confusion will prevail if you take on too much.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Enjoy seeing people that you don't get to spend much time with. Remember the good times you've had in the past and think about recreating some of those moments.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's the perfect time to revamp your look. It will lift your spirits and raise your confidence. Share your thoughts with your closest friend and he or she will help you make important decisions regarding your new look.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Avoid gambling. Travel will be exciting, but you must be prepared to spend more than you had planned. You need to gauge yourself carefully and steer clear of individuals who are after your cash.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A new philosophy may be just what you need in order to see your future with more clarity. This is a perfect time for you to listen, observe and formulate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You have important moves to make and if you waffle now you may miss out on something that could influence your future. Your ability to captivate others will bring interest and support from influential people.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Partnerships may appear to be a little difficult but be attentive and sensitive to the needs of those you love. Use your imagination and plan a special day.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take care of any health problems that occur. Now is the time to quit any bad habits that you've developed. You need to get a better view of the situation around you before making any life-altering decisions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): It's time to put a little effort into doing something that you have always wanted to do. Call it a hobby or just a way to relieve stress; the time has come to stop thinking and start doing.

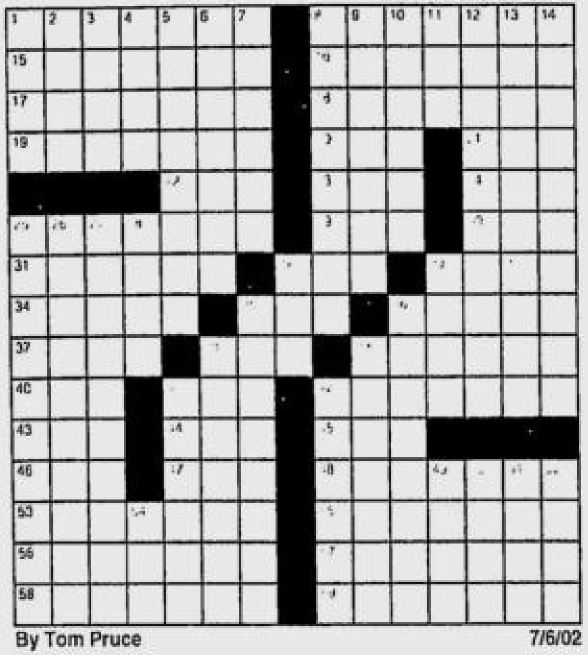
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be tempted to do things that will cost you way too much. Don't overspend on friends who tend to lean on you too much. You need to do things that will allow you to expand your creative abilities.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You will be in a social mood today so be sure to make plans to get out and do things with friends. You can develop new friendships if you take part in community events.

Birthday Baby: You are strong-willed, resourceful, energetic and focused when it comes to making money and being responsible. You will take any concept and turn it into something of value.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com



By Tom Pruce
Chicago, IL

7/6/02

ACROSS
1 Unconquerable opponents
8 Hot beverage serving trolley
15 Obvious
16 Fish tanks
17 "Carmen" author Prosper
18 "2001: A Space Odyssey" director
19 Former
20 Listening device?
21 Definite article
22 Apple seed
23 Lunched
24 That guy's
25 Regards with approval
29 Golly!
30 Fellows
31 Baldwins and Steinways
32 On behalf of
33 Sub
34 Arranges in relative positions
35 Uncooked
36 Little, in Lille
37 Nile wader
38 Pentagon grp.
39 Glassy lava
40 Droop
41 Young dog
42 Australian lizards
43 Resp. disease
44 Dander
45 House addition
46 OPEC product
47 Post-graduate pursuit
48 Soil for future transplants
53 Sweet potato
55 Portuguese wine
56 Cocoon's condition
57 Like distant subdivisions
58 Winter vehicles
59 Musical repeat

DOWN
1 Verne's skipper
2 Uniform
3 Stick in the mud
4 Revise manuscript
5 Part-time ballplayers
6 Those on the other side
7 Saturates
8 Acknowledge applause
9 Zero latitude
10 Art nouveau illustrator Beardsley
11 Tender or Pullman
12 Art of counting
13 Wealthy cartoon kid
14 Marks down
25 4/1 prank victims
26 Very cruel and wicked
27 Handle
28 Pen fills
32 Short-lived craze
33 Blood: pref.
35 Telpherages
36 Came to a halt
38 Imprisonment
39 Weapon of the Middle Ages
41 Bridge or wharf support
42 Hypnotism pioneer
49 Earl _ Biggers
50 Actress Andersson
51 Noteworthy times
52 Laertes or Ophelia, e.g.
54 Buttons or Barber

Friday's Puzzle Solved

C	R	E	W	■	R	O	U	S	T	■	W	O	O	S
L	O	C	H	■	E	D	G	E	R	■	I	N	D	Y
O	B	O	E	■	D	E	L	T	A	■	N	E	O	N
P	O	L	E	P	O	S	I	T	I	O	N	■	■	■
S	T	I	L	L	■	■	■	E	N	T	E	R	E	D
■	■	■	S	E	A	L	E	R	■	B	R	I	D	E
E	M	S	■	A	L	E	X	■	■	■	S	T	I	R
R	I	C	■	D	A	Y	T	O	N	A	■	A	T	M
R	A	M	P	■	■	■	R	A	I	L	■	S	H	A
E	M	A	I	L	■	C	A	R	P	E	T	■	■	■
D	I	S	T	I	C	H	■	■	■	R	E	A	L	M
■	■	■	S	T	R	A	I	G	H	T	A	W	A	Y
L	O	U	T	■	A	N	G	L	E	■	P	A	U	L
I	N	F	O	■	S	C	O	U	R	■	O	K	R	A
P	O	O	H	■	H	E	R	E	S	■	T	E	A	R

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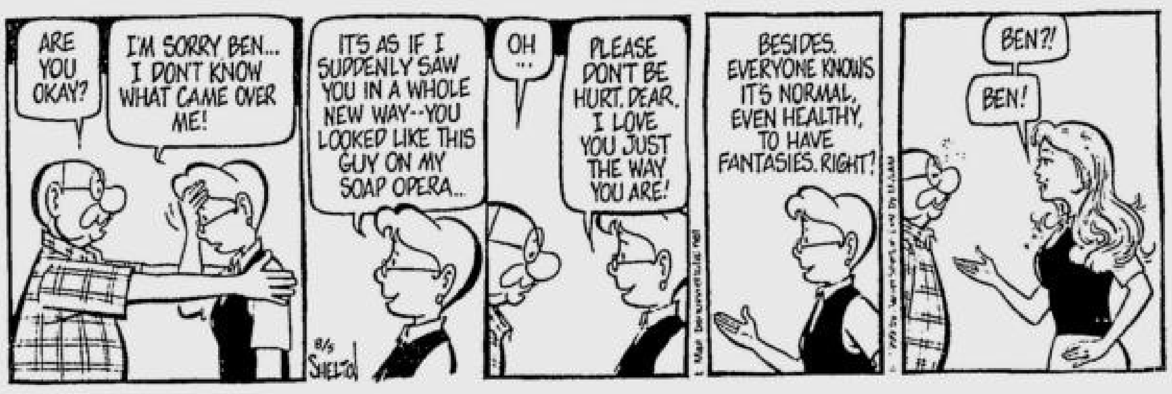
7/6/02

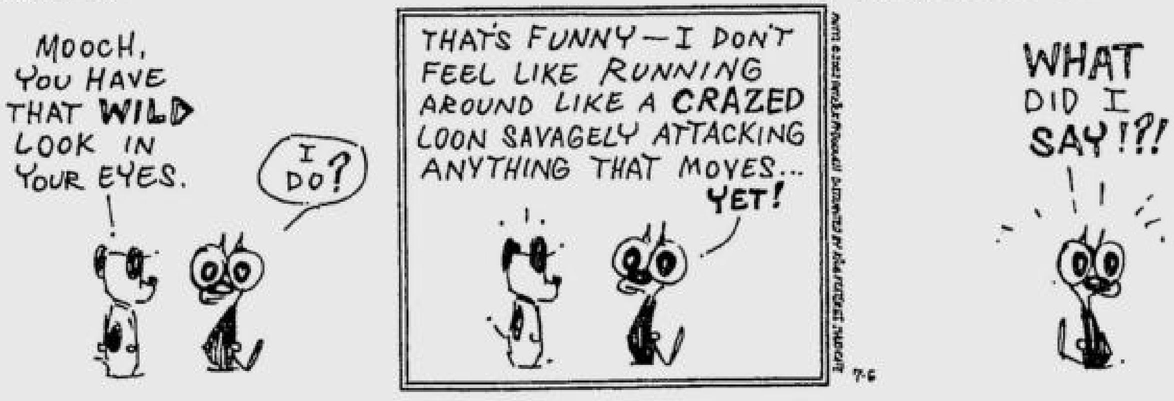
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


ARE YOU OKAY?
I'M SORRY BEN... I DON'T KNOW WHAT CAME OVER ME!
IT'S AS IF I SUDDENLY SAW YOU IN A WHOLE NEW WAY--YOU LOOKED LIKE THIS GUY ON MY SOAP OPERA...
OH ...
PLEASE DON'T BE HURT, DEAR. I LOVE YOU JUST THE WAY YOU ARE!
BESIDES. EVERYONE KNOWS IT'S NORMAL, EVEN HEALTHY, TO HAVE FANTASIES. RIGHT?
BEN?!
BEN!

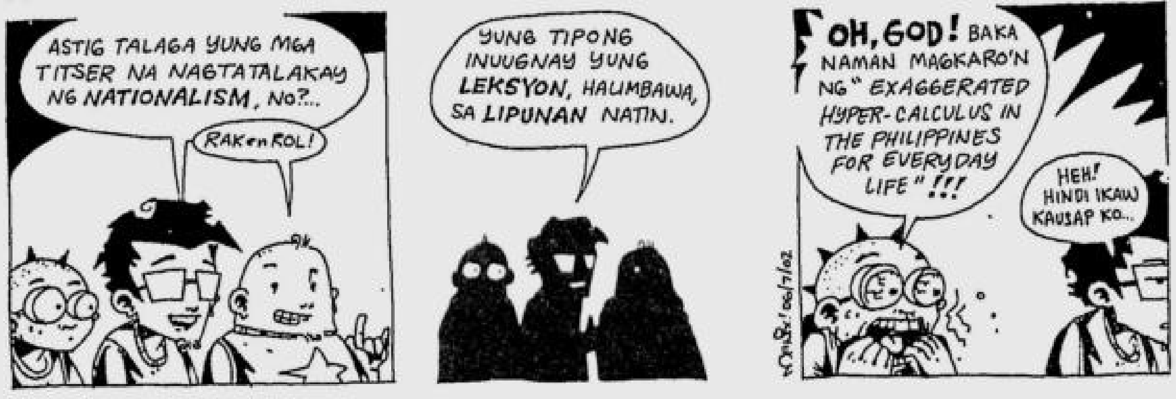
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


MOOCH, YOU HAVE THAT WILD LOOK IN YOUR EYES.
I DO?
THAT'S FUNNY—I DON'T FEEL LIKE RUNNING AROUND LIKE A CRAZED LOON SAVAGELY ATTACKING ANYTHING THAT MOVES...
YET!
WHAT DID I SAY!?!

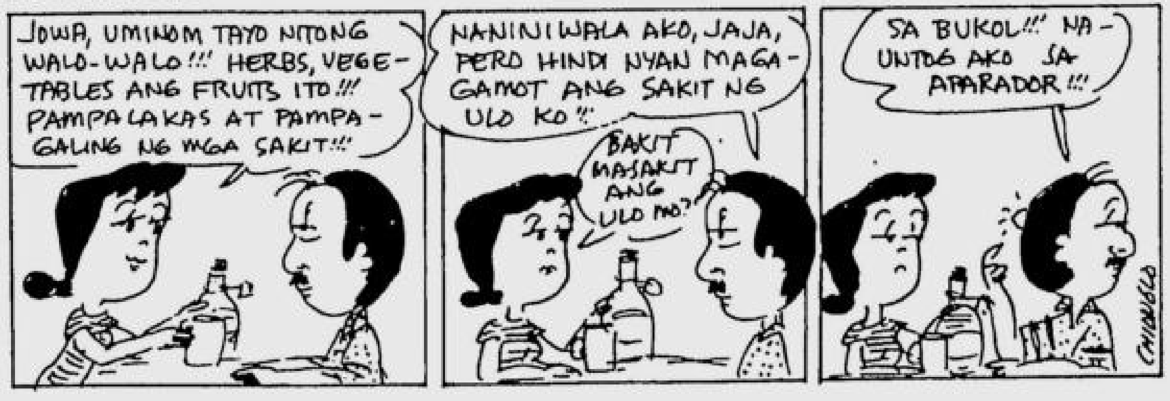
KIKO MACHINE

BY MANIX ABRERA


ASTIG TALAGA YUNG MGA TITSER NA NAGTATALAKAY NG NATIONALISM, NO?..
RAKenROL!
YUNG TIPONG INUUGNAY YUNG LEKSYON, HALIMBAWA, SA LIPUNAN NATIN.
OH, GOD! BAKA NAMAN MAGKARO'N NG "EXAGGERATED HYPER-CALCULUS IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR EVERYDAY LIFE"!!!
HEH! HINDI IKAW KAUSAP KO...

LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


JOWA, UMINOM TAYO NITONG WALO-WALO!!! HERBS, VEGETABLES ANG FRUITS ITO!!! PAMPALAKAS AT PAMPAGALING NG MGA SAKIT!!!
NANINIWALA AKO, JAJA, PERO HINDI NYAN MAGAGAMOT ANG SAKIT NG ULO KO!!
BAKIT MASAKIT ANG ULO MO?
SA BUKOL!!! NAUNTOG AKO SA APARADOR!!!

TULDOK

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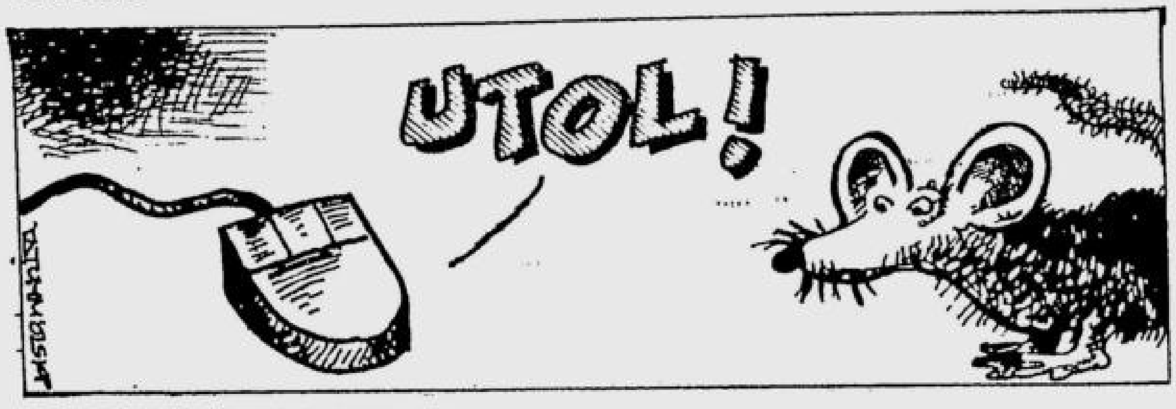
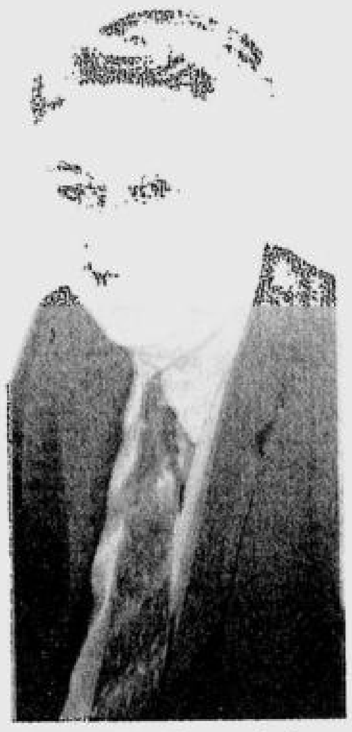


'Amazing Nights' goes Broadway on July 11

By Gloria P. Sicam



CAYABYAB. Theater is in his blood.

THE IDEA came to them after the concert of Anna Fegi and Bituin Escalante for NBC's "Amazing Nights." After the show, Mr. C didn't leave the piano. Instead, he invited people in the audience to come up and jam with him.

As it happened, there were a lot of theater artists watching that night, and most of them sang Broadway songs. Audie Gemora, who was one of those called onstage to sing that night, says, "*Tinukso namin yung* producer: Why don't you do Broadway? And he took us up on our offer."

Comeback

That's why this month's "Amazing Nights" at the NBC Tent with Mr. C on July 11 at 9:15 p.m. will feature theater artists Audie Gemora, Carlo Orosa, Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo and Sheila Francisco, fresh from her well-received stint on the West End as Bloody Mary in the musical, "South Pacific." "This is like her reintroduction to Philippine theater," says Carlo.

The concert marks other reintroductions—Audie takes a short break from producing shows for Trumpets to perform, and Menchu celebrates her 25th year in the business by going back to a medium she'd done many years ago as a Pepsi talent, when she sang "We Built This City On Rock and Roll" so clearly that people finally understood the lyrics.

So, why these four theater artists? Says Mr. C, "They were personally handpicked, if that's any indication. I had to ask Sheila first. And then they said, okay, that's a nice idea, so what's your concept like? And I said, well, we've been doing pop for the past four shows, so it would be great to have the top theater artists perform.

"I haven't worked with Menchu Lauchengco yet. I've worked with Audie in my Rizal musicals. And Carlo, I was with from my very first workshop. (The class included the likes of Regine Velasquez, Janno Gibbs and Bimbo Cerrudo)."

Theater lover

And how is it, working with Mr. C? Audie says, "It's always a joy to work with him because he understands and loves theater. It's in his blood as much as it is in ours."

How different is it, preparing for a concert rather than a play? Says Audie, "Very different. When we were brainstorming the other day, we were thinking of how to attack a song differently, out of context. If we were doing it in the context of a play, we'd be locked into the character, we couldn't get out of that. But this is basically servicing the music, and reinterpreting the lyrics in a more relaxed way."

Another difference is the rehearsal period. Menchu explains: "We're only going to have three rehearsals. So we kinda panicked. Especially me, I don't do anything but theater, and I'm used to two months."

But while the actors were panicking, Mr. C was calm. Carlo narrates, "*Sabi niya*, relax guys, it's okay! We'll just have fun!"

Medleys

They say they'll probably be singing around 30 songs from different musicals, but not all in their complete form—"Otherwise we'll never leave the tent!" Menchu exclaims. There will be differently themed medleys that set up certain songs that feature one of them, every now and then. It will be a mix of the more popular musicals and songs that may not be as well known, but are just songs that they love singing.

At the presscon, they hadn't even touched the new musicals—but you never know, during rehearsals, the song list changes. And with an excited group like this—Mr C says, "That's what I like about working with these four, they're just so much fun!"—you never know what they'll come up with.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKSHELF

Stanley Kauffmann shares his love for movies with readers

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Langhap-Sarap sa Jollibee
bee happy

By Noelani Torre

IF you are satisfied with film critics who tell you nothing but the gossip behind a particular movie, or fob off high-flown cinematic gobbledygook, you could find it hard to like Stanley Kauffmann. Quietly but undeniably passionate about film, he eschews such superfluous tactics and presents us with the very meat and bone of a movie.

As Susan Sontag puts it: "Stanley Kauffmann cares valiantly, ardently, about movies. He is—doesn't everyone know this?—one of our [America's] national treasures."

Publication

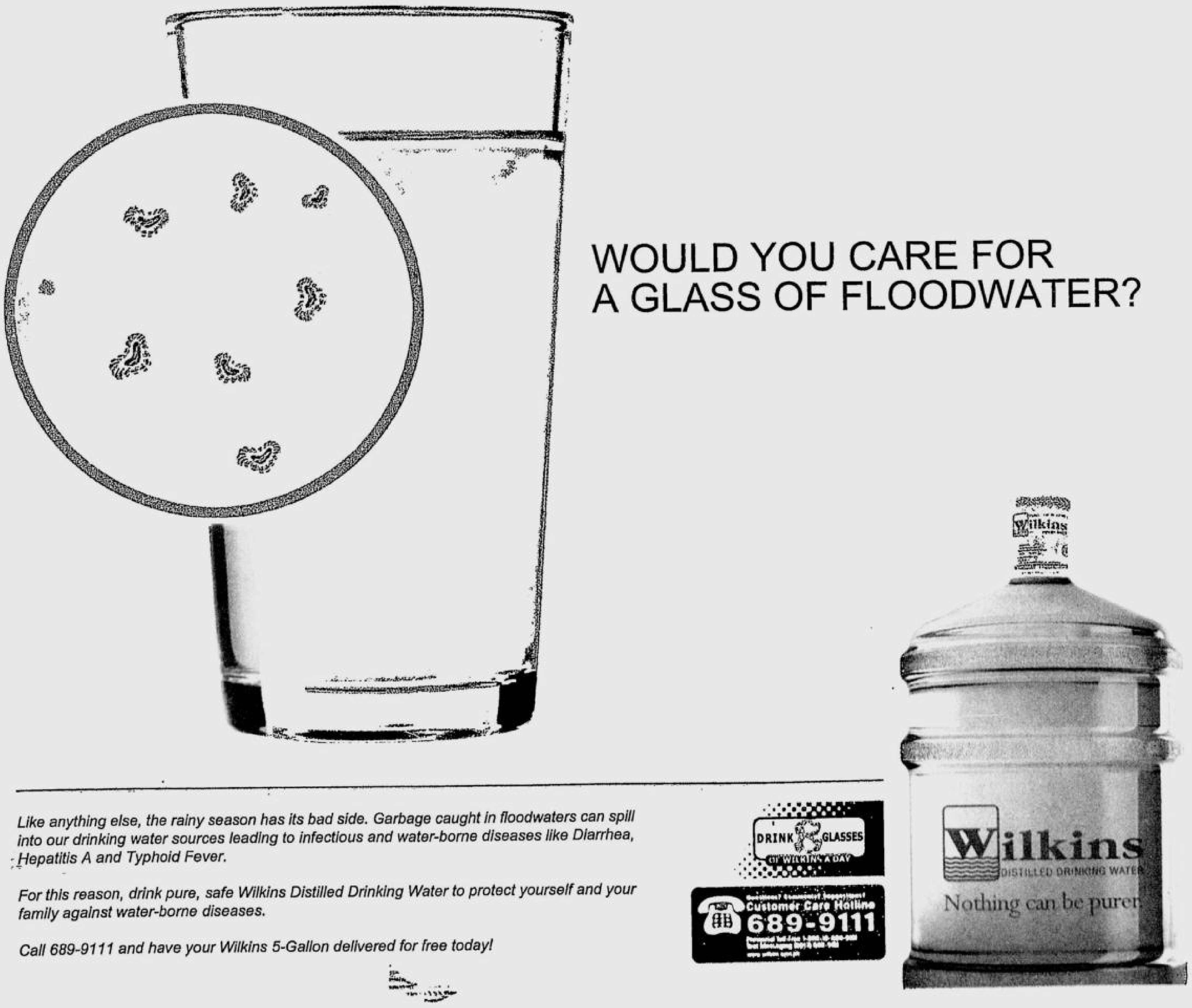
Mr. Kauffmann wrote about film for The New Republic for almost half a century. He was also The New York Times theater critic, and his writings have appeared in such publications as the Saturday Review, The American Scholar, and Salmagundi.

He has also taught film and theater at the Yale School of Drama, the CUNY Graduate Center, Adelphi University, and Hunter College. He has received grants from the Guggenheim, Ford, and Rockefeller Foundations, as well as numerous awards including the George Jean Nathan Award for Dramatic Criticism, the George Polk Award for Criticism, the Edwin Booth Award of the CUNY Graduate Center, the Telluridge Film Festival Silver Medal, and the Outstanding Teacher Award from the Association for Theater in Higher Education.

Critical voice

Clearly, his has been a most distinguished career. Seven collections of Mr. Kauffmann's film criticism have been published, and it is through one of these, "A World on Film" (Dell Publishing Co., Inc.), that we have made the acquaintance of his unpretentious and highly incisive critical voice.

"A World on Film" is his first collection and it is as interesting to us now as it no doubt was to its earlier readers, albeit in a different way. The pieces in this book are among Kauffman's earliest, dating from 1959 to the Sixties. It was considered to be the "best collection of film criticism to date" when it was first published, and it retains its importance now for its recording of the "artistic and moral resources" of the time. *(To be concluded)*



Like anything else, the rainy season has its bad side. Garbage caught in floodwaters can spill into our drinking water sources leading to infectious and water-borne diseases like Diarrhea, Hepatitis A and Typhoid Fever.

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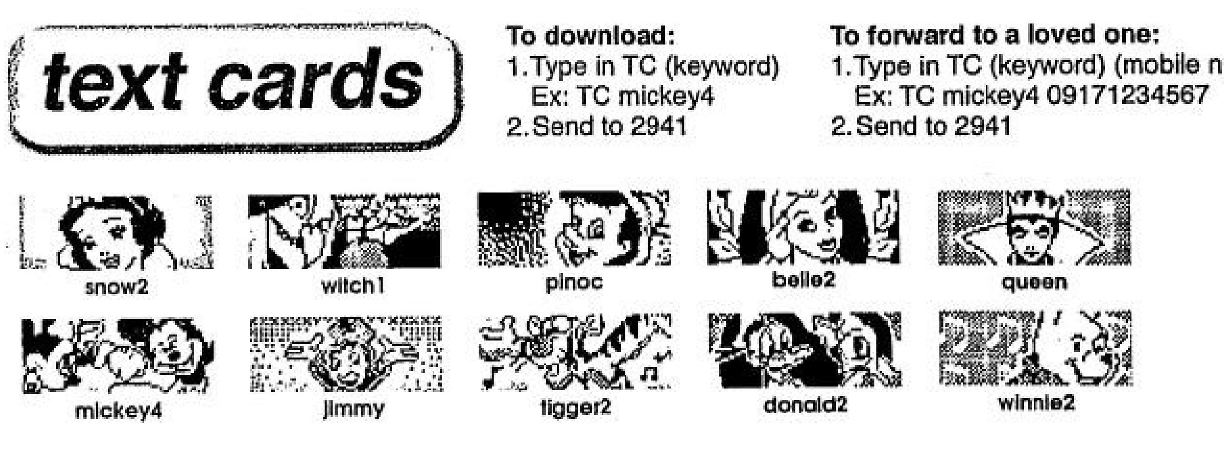
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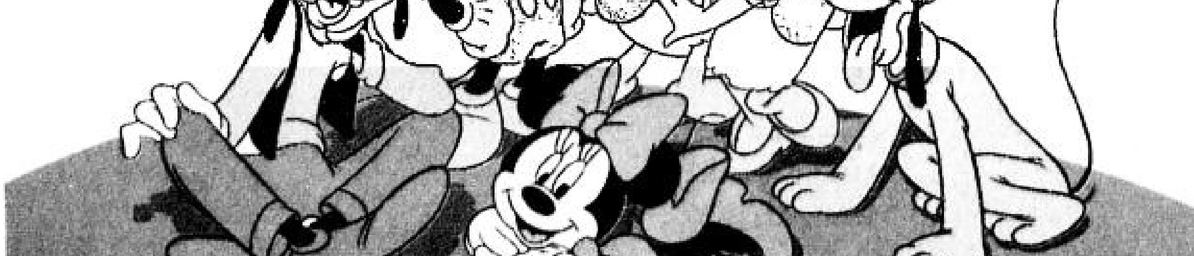
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KEYWORD	TITLE
Nworld	A Whole New World
Bguest	Be Our Guest
Beauty	Beauty and the Beast
Bibbidi	Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo (The Magic Song)
Chim	Chim Chim Cher-ee
Colors	Colors of the Wind
Cruella	Cruella De Vil
Frlike	Friend Like Me
Godist	Go The Distance
Hakuna	Hakuna Matata
Smworld	It's a Small World
Mickey	Mickey Mouse March
Minnie	Minnie's Yoo Hoo
Adream	Once Upon a Dream
Supercali	Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious
Tigger	The Wonderful Thing about Tiggers
Winnie	Winnie the Pooh
Ucanfly	You Can Fly! You Can Fly!
Inmyhrt	You'll Be in My Heart
Zipadee	Zip-a-dee-doo-dah

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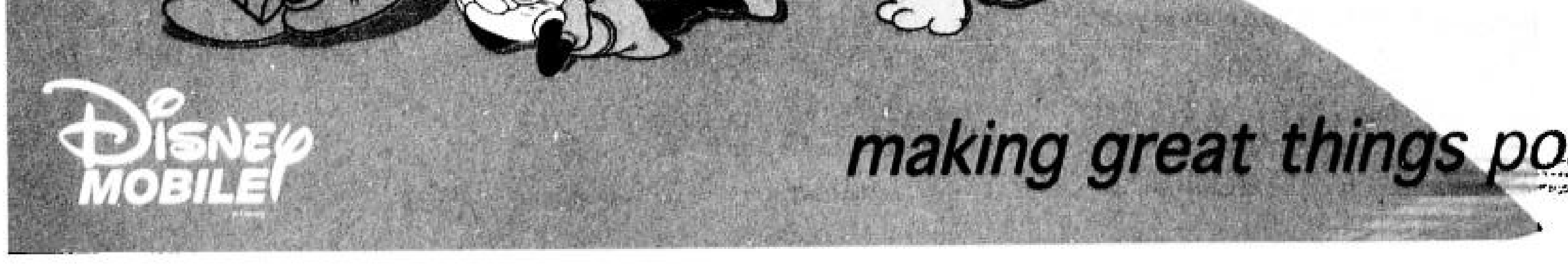

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WHAT'S INSIDE:

Letter for Lolo Page 3
Bust to Mars Page 3
Poetry: Tuwing Tag-araw Page 10
The Lunch Box Page 12

HTTP://YOU.INQ7.NET/JI

Syrine's Wishes

Wishes do come true for this brave girl

by Eline Santos

"SYRINE is the life of the 624 ward. Madaldal 'yan," said Justine Sababam, child life specialist at Kythe. 624 is the ward for who have to undergo chemotherapy.

When Syrine Solomon or Sy was 9 months old, she was diagnosed with retinoblastoma or cancer of the eye. Doctors promptly decided to take out her affected left eye in 1994 when she was just over a year old.

The cancer however came back in September 2001 and Syrine had to stop going to the Zapote Elementary School. The disease had caused her right eye to bulge out and by December she was totally blind.

Chemotherapy sessions began at the East Avenue Medical Center under the care of Dr. Ramon Severino in January. Syrine's treatment required 7 cycles of chemotherapy spaced 21 days apart. Each session at the hospital lasted three to four days.

While waiting for her hair to grow back, Syrine wears pretty hats.

Despite not being able to go to school, Syrine keeps learning by asking questions and remembering things. She memorizes her friends' phone numbers and calls them up to say hi.

"I want to be a doctor," she declared, "so I can heal sick people like me."

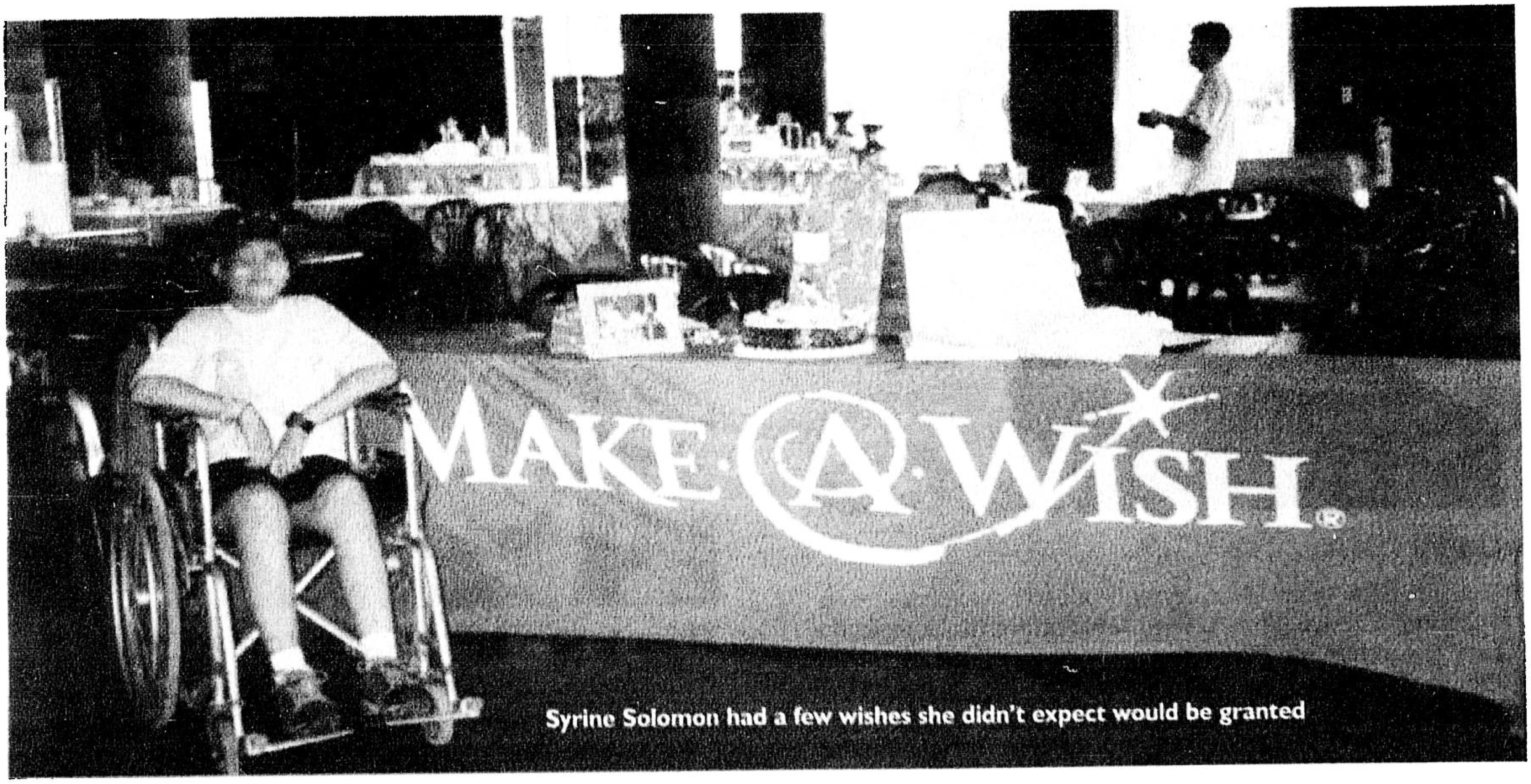
Syrine's mother recalled some of her daughter's worst moments, "She had such severe headaches, she couldn't sleep."

"Isang beses, sumakit ang ulo ko from 4 am to 8 am," Syrine said. The painkillers somehow helped. "Minsan nawawala. Minsan nababawasan lang."

Doctors had said that Syrine only had a 10% chance of survival. The cancer was already at stage 4; Syrine had lost her appetite and was very thin. "Hindi na halos nakakalakad," recalled Mrs. Solomon.

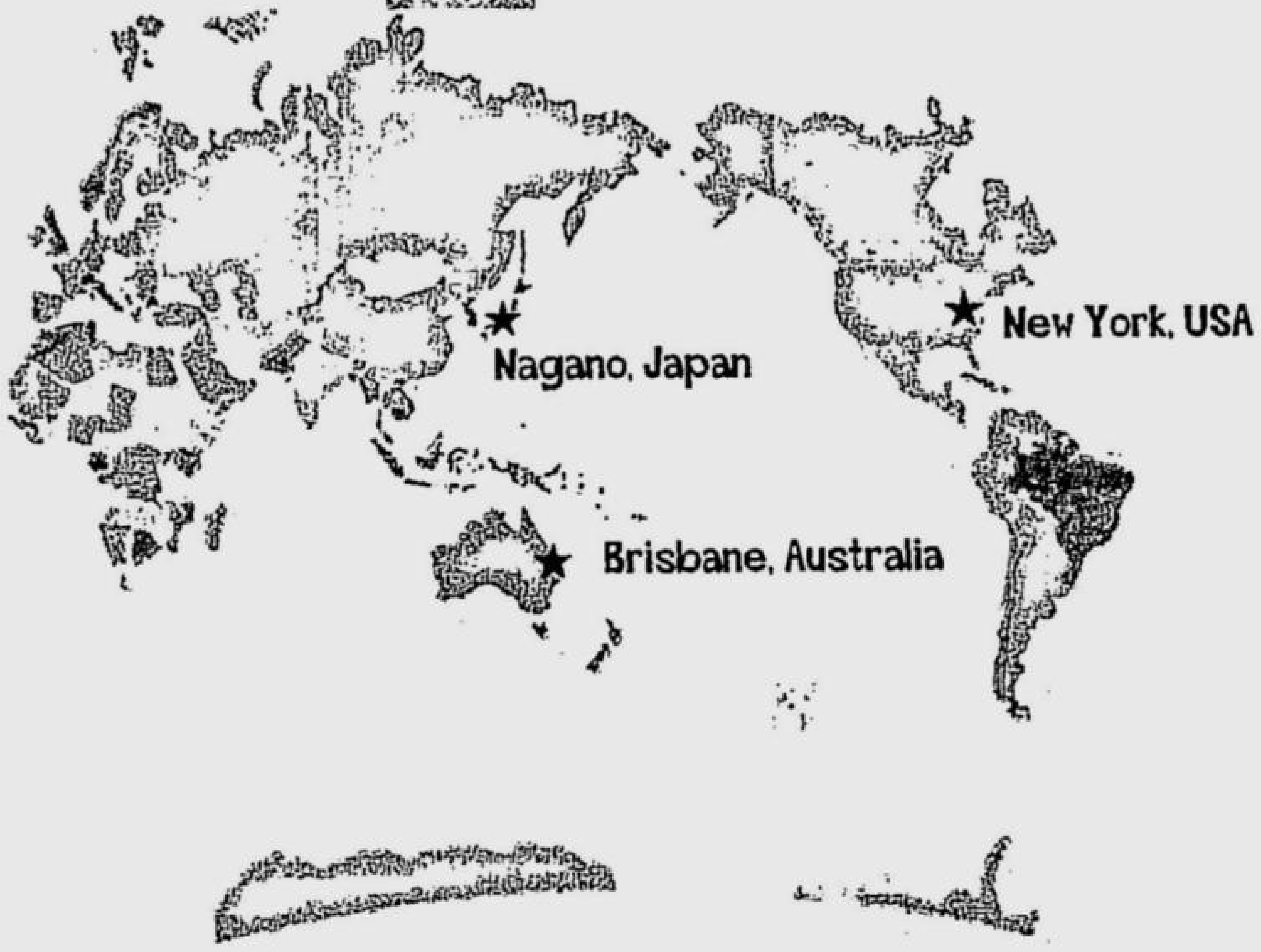
Older siblings Sherwin, 13, and Sherlyn, 12, sometimes help do things for their

Syrine s wishes/ p. 6



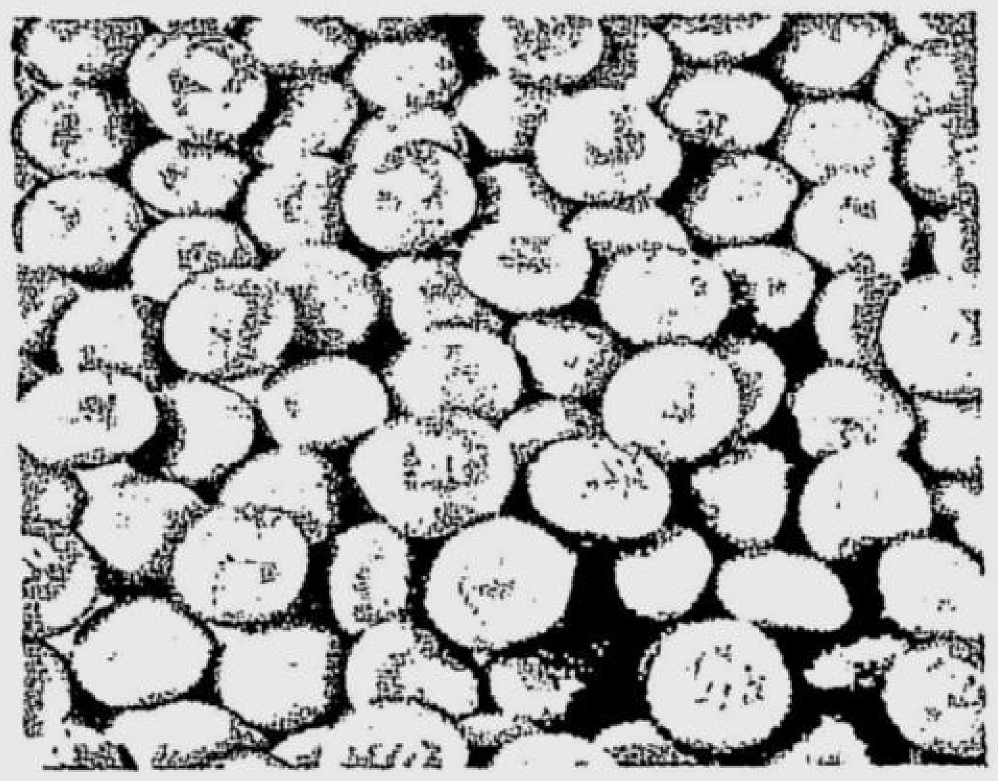
Syrine Solomon had a few wishes she didn't expect would be granted

World Scope



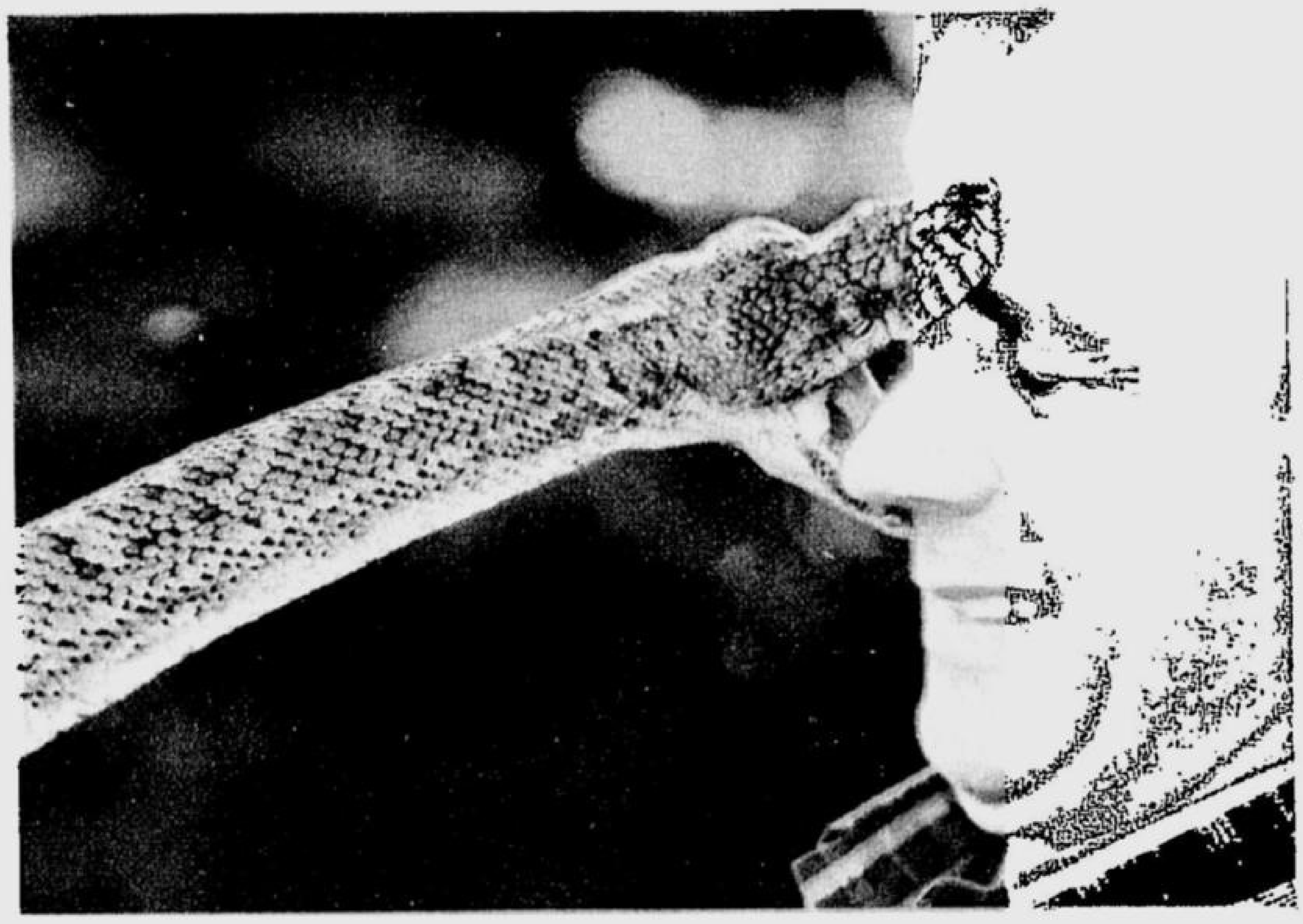
Where's the shampoo?

A monkey rubs its head while bathing in an outdoor hot spring. At the Jigokudani Wild Monkey Park in Yamanouchi in Nagano Prefecture, monkey bathers outnumber people. *AP*



Ahoy lavander lovers!

Mars, the maker of M&M's, is adding purple to its family of multi-colored chocolate candies. Purple won the vote from 10 million people via Internet, beating competitors pink and aqua. *AP*

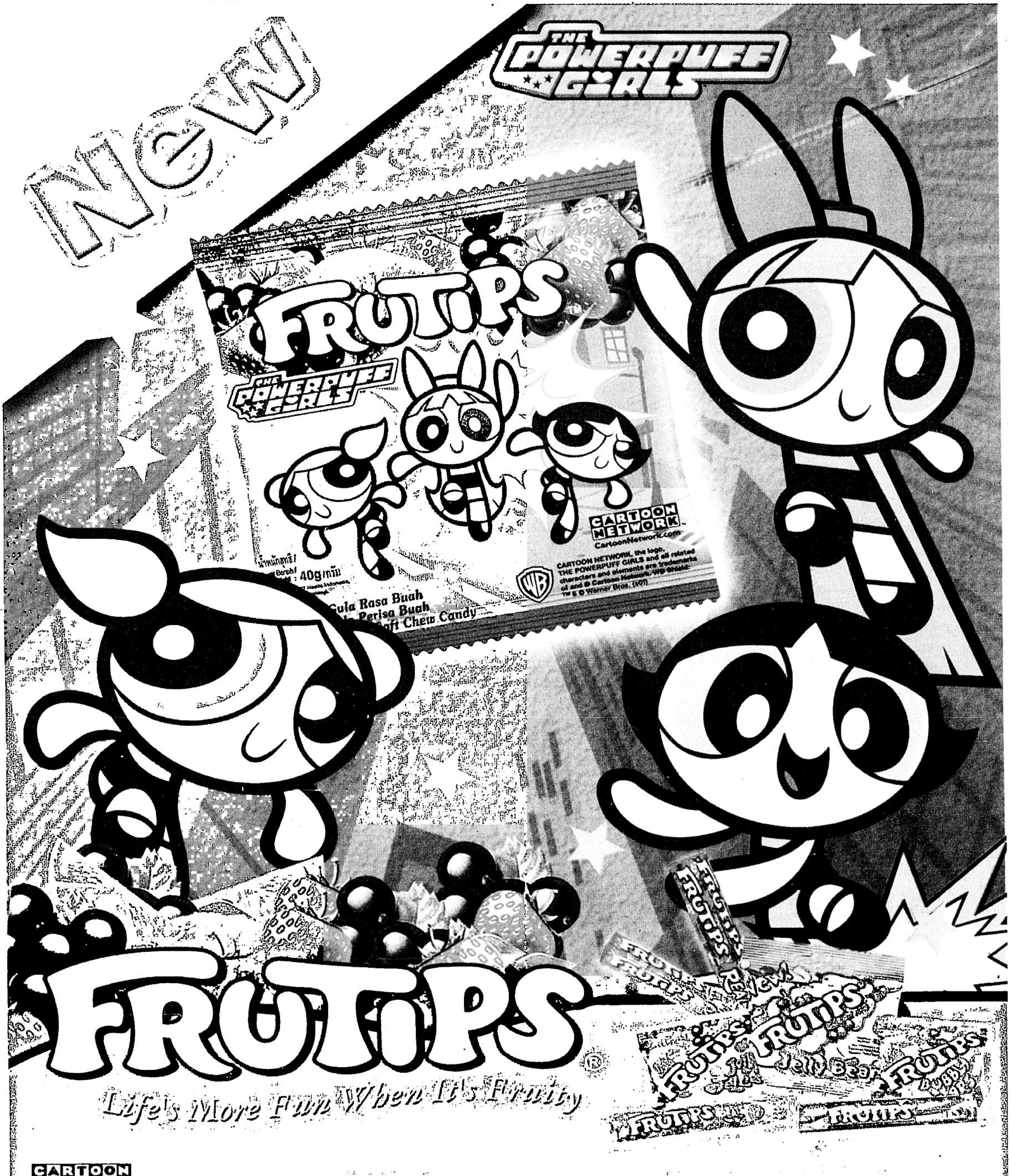


Ouch!

Snake handler Peter Morningstar had just removed the seven-kilogram, three-meter (10 feet) long carpet snake from the roof of a house when it bit him on the brow. Not to worry though. Morningstar has been bitten by non-venomous snakes before, with this one leaving only small puncture marks on his face. *Reuters*

Tiger look-alikes escape zoo!

These students participated in groundbreaking rites for a new tiger exhibit at the Bronx Zoo in New York. The famed zoo has 6,000 resident fauna, not including these tiger kids. *AP*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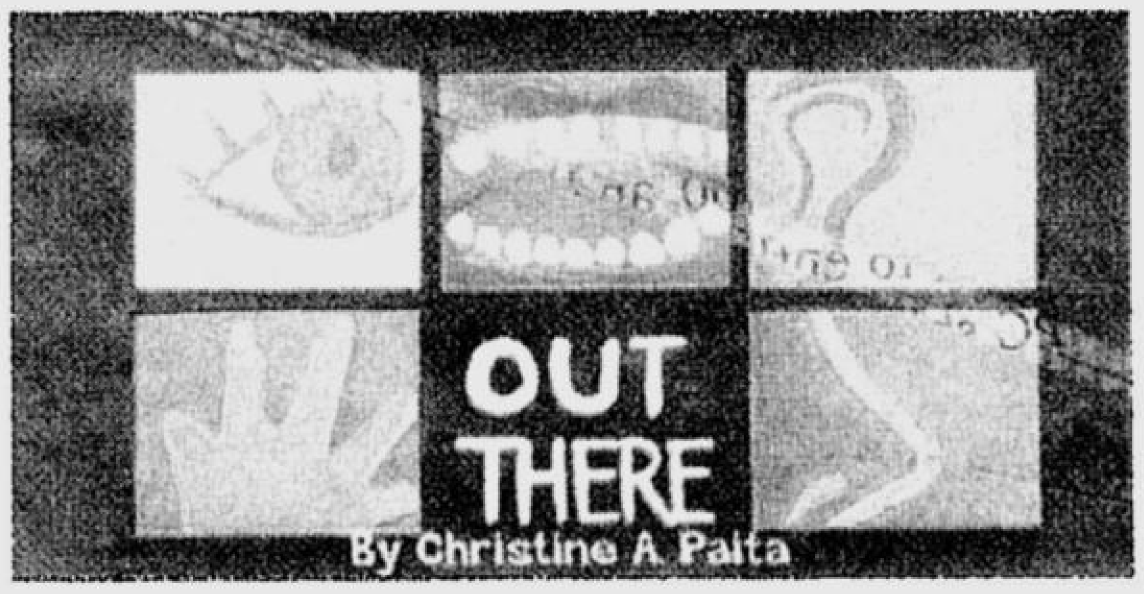


OUT THERE

By Christine A. Paita

Got something for Out There? Send us the info two weeks in advance. Our fax numbers are 897-4793 up to 94. Don't forget to include your contact numbers and addresses.

Activities

WEEKEND AT MUSEO. Have fun this weekend at Museo Pambata with storytelling and arts and crafts sessions. At 10 a.m. today, watch the ANINO Shadow Play Collective as they present their own version of the Zambaleño tale, "Ang Buwaya at ang Matsing". At 2 p.m., listen to friends from the Israel Embassy and Shalom Club Manila as they tell the story of "Mitz Petel", a popular children's book from Israel. On July 7, Sunday, visit the Guides Corner on its 2nd year anniversary. Join the friendly theme room guides in a cooking demo and learn how to make a colorful Fruit Collage Salad. For details, please call 523-1797/98 or email pr-prog@museopambata.org.

Workshops

WRITING FOR CHILDREN. Adarna House invites all aspiring and published children's writers to its first Writing for Children Workshop to be held on October 11-13, 2002. The three-day lecture-workshop will tackle story-writing techniques, issues affecting the Filipino child reader, and current trends in children's literature. Interested writers may send a one-page biographical data and **3 copies of their original story** to: Adarna House, 73-A Scout Limbaga St., 1103 Quezon City. Entries should be typewritten on short bond paper. Deadline is on August 15, 2002. For inquiries please contact Allan Popa at 372-3548 to 49.

TO THE BOOKSTORE! If you missed out on Adarna House's previous workshops or just can't get enough of them, then here's your chance to become part of the fun! In celebration of National Children's Book Month, Adarna House will hold the "Kuwentong Adarna Bookstore Tour" this July. Check out the bookstore nearest you for the following activities:

- Storytelling and Basic Clay Art Workshop-July 7, Sunday, 1-4 p.m., Goodwill Bookstore Annex Building SM City, Quezon City; July 21, 1-4:30 p.m.,Powerbooks, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City
- Storytelling and Basic Maskmaking Workshop-July 13, Saturday, 1-4 p.m., Goodwill Bookstore, Glorietta Mall, Makati City; July 27, Saturday, 1-4:30 p.m., Powerbooks, SM Megamall

Registration will be accepted at the bookstores. For more info please call 372-3548.

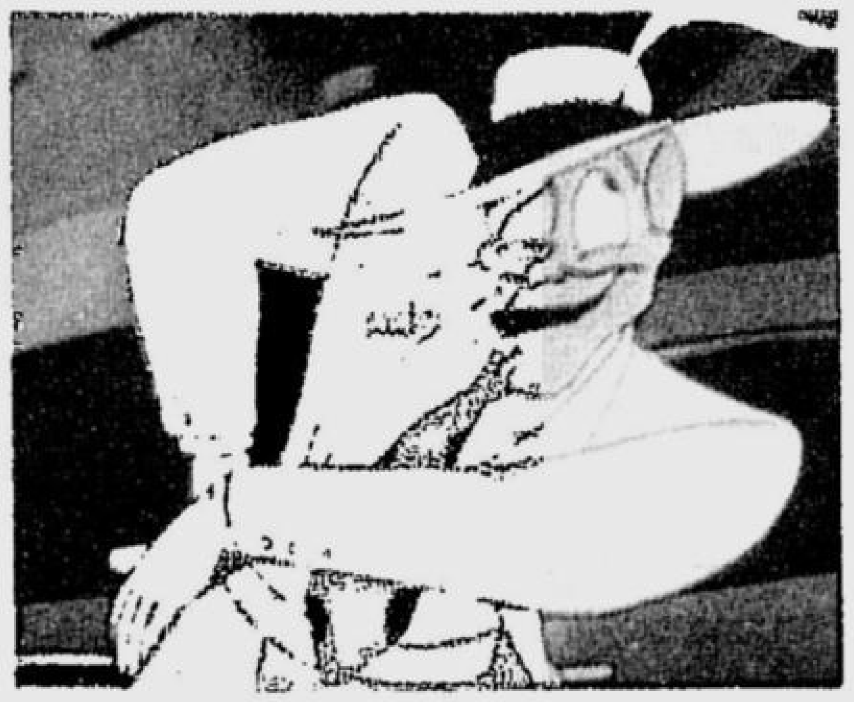
Lecture

THAI PUBLISHING. The Philippine Board on Books for Young People (PBBY), together with the UP Creative Writing Center, will hold a lecture on Thai Publishing on Thursday, July 18, at the U.P. Faculty Center Conference Room (Claro M. Recto Hall), 9-11 a.m. The speaker for this event is Ms. Porn-Anong Niyomka Horikawa, Secretary-General of the Thai section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY). For more details, please contact the U.P. Creative Writing Center at 922-1830, or the PBBY Secretariat at 372-3548/49. You may also fax 372-4204 or email pbby@adarna.com.ph.

Exhibit

CARTOONS. The Japan Foundation with Shangri-La Plaza Corporation presents the "5th Asian Cartoon Exhibition", showcasing the works of noted cartoonists from around Asia. Among the featured cartoonists is Mr. Washington "Tonton" Young, president of Samahang Kartonista ng Pilipinas. The 90 cartoon artworks on exhibit will give a glimpse of various levels of educational needs, problems and issues, and the circumstances facing each nation. The exhibit runs from July 6 to 26, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. at Level 4, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City. For inquiries please call 811-6155 to 58.

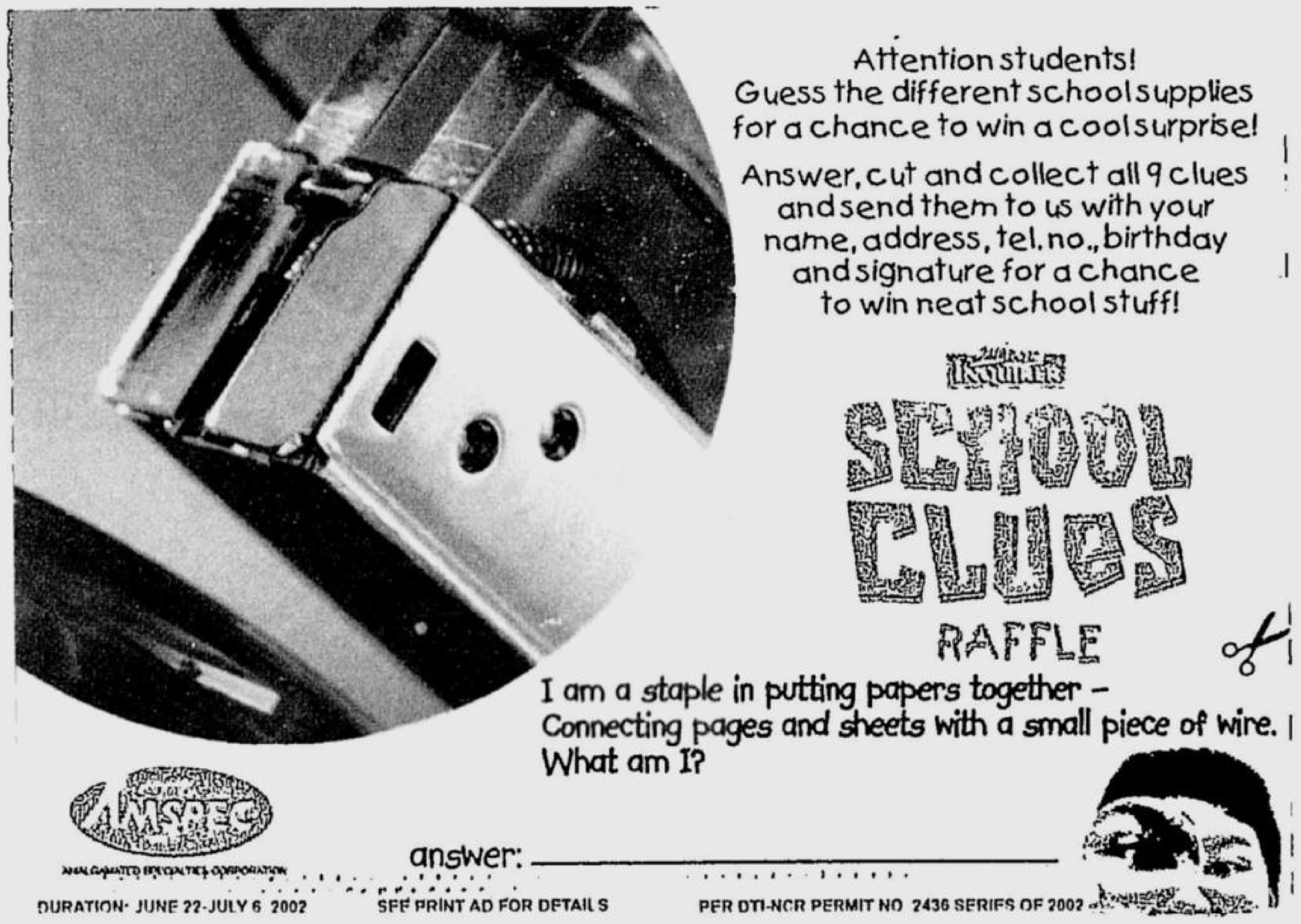
Cable Picks



GUESS WHO'S CHARACTER OF THE MONTH? July will be "smokin'!" as Cartoon Network presents The Mask as Character of the Month. Stanley Ipkiss is a shy and sweet guy, but when he dons an ancient headpiece he becomes the cool and funny Mask. Don't miss him every Sunday in July at 9:30 a.m. on Cartoon Network.

CARING CANINES. On Wednesday, July 10 at 8 p.m., watch the lovable series "Dogs with Jobs" on National Geographic Channel. Meet Peek, a Papillon, who does chores for her handicapped owner Debi. Canaan, a lead Bouvier des Flanders, herds emus to pasture and protects them from coyotes. Then there's Willy who patrols a metro station in Barcelona to prevent people from jumpimg the turnstiles and from selling things illegally.

SUNKEN SHIP. Join sea hunters as they explore ocean depths to discover Carpathia, the ship that saved the Titanic survivors. Watch "The Sea Hunters: The Search for Carpathia" on Sunday, July 7 at 7:30 p.m. on National Geographic Channel.



Attention students!
Guess the different school supplies for a chance to win a cool surprise!
Answer, cut and collect all 9 clues and send them to us with your name, address, tel. no., birthday and signature for a chance to win neat school stuff!

Junior Inquirer SCHOOL CLUES RAFFLE

I am a staple in putting papers together –
Connecting pages and sheets with a small piece of wire.
What am I?

answer: ____________________

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We're one billion!

THE one billionth computer was sold in April, the Gartner high-tech consultancy announced Sunday.

According to the company, one billion PC have been sold since the mid-1970s.

A quarter of those machines went to consumers, while the reset ended up in corporations.

A vast majority, about 80 percent, were desktop computers, as opposed to portables and laptops.

The consultancy expect the second billion PC landmark to come quickly—as soon as 2007 or 2008—because of dropping prices of PCs and demand from developing countries.

The US had received the bulk of those machines, — 38.8 percent, or 394 million, reported the consultancy.

A quarter those billion have been shipped into Europe and 11.7 percent were sent to Asia-Pacific countries.

Some 16 percent of those machines were portables, Gartner said. Only two percent were servers, machines dedicated to passing data on a network.

The first commercial PCs—called Altairs—cost between 400 and 600 dollars and were shipped to enthusiast in 1975.

PC shipments bolted past 600,000 in 1981 with the advent of the IBM PC, aimed at corporate desktops.

Double-digit growth has been a benchmark of the sector, except for 1985 and 2001, which saw the only declines in the market.

Analysts expect a decline again in 2002, as the industry wrestles with consumer markets glutted with machines, and third-world countries which still cannot afford the relatively expensive machines. AFP

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(from page 1)

That's Syrine in front of the roller coaster

youngest sister, such as giving Sy a glass of soda to drink.

Sometimes her siblings get jealous because of all the attention she gets but their mom asks the older ones for their understanding instead.

Syrine just turned 9 years old last July 2, a day after her Lola Victoria Manipon turned 71.

Wish #1: House and Lot

"Mabait si Lola Ike," Syrine said. "She calls me everyday because I ask her to." Aside from contributing to the medical bills, Lola Ike paid for the house and lot the Solomon family stay in.

"Halos lahat ng pangarap ko matutupad na," Mrs. Solomon quotes her daughter as saying about the nice house they now live in.

"Laundry woman ang Lola niya sa States, " Sy's mother said. "Nagtatrabaho pa rin kahit 71 years old na."

On the other hand, Syrine's father Sergio took a leave from work as a security guard at the Precious Gem pawnshop in Las Piñas to help care for Sy during her chemotherapy sessions with Kythe.

Wish #2: Syrine meets Claudine

Kythe is the Scottish word for healing through simple sharing and togetherness.

They not only provide financial assistance but they also try to meet the psychosocial needs of their young cancer patients and their families.

"We go for quality life," Kythe's staffer Justine said.

"If you visit Syrine, masaya na siya n'on. Small things for them mean a lot. Just visit them and talk to them."

The foundation also arranged for Syrine to meet Claudine Barretto last March. In honor of her favorite actress, Sy named one of her teddy bears in honor of the celebrity.

Syrine's chemotherapy session ended on the first week of June. Mrs. Solomon marked the difference in Sy's appetite and energy level from last November, "Milagro na lang yata ang nangyayari. Malakas na siya kumain—dalawang spaghetti, minsan may hamburger pa."

Later Sy would say, "Kailangan kumain para gumaling. 'Di ba?"

Currently, Syrine is undergoing radiotherapy treatment.

Wish# 3: A day at Enchanted Kingdom

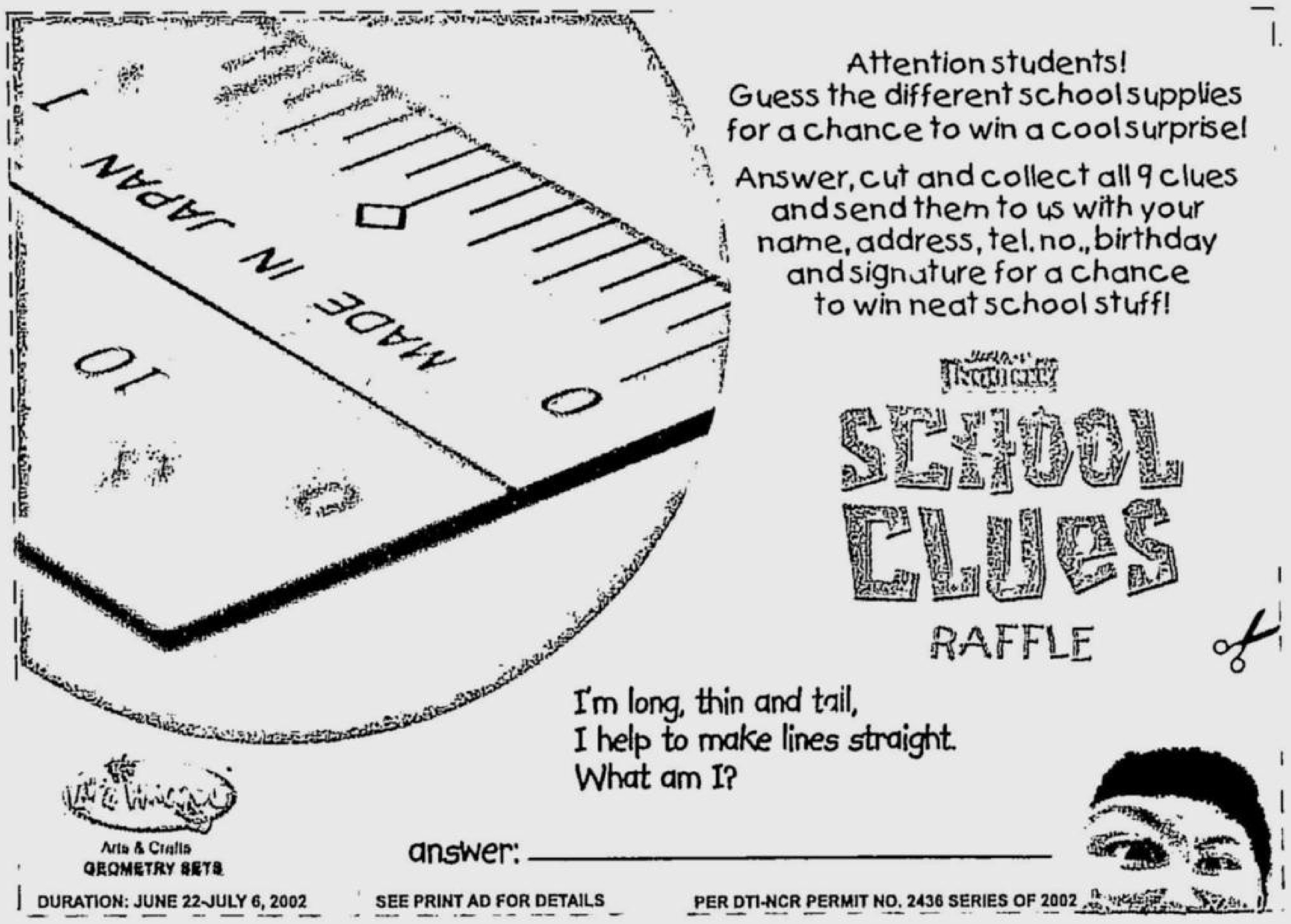
Even as she fought for her life, Make-a-Wish Foundation of the Philippines (MAWFP) also stepped in to further boost her spirit.

Located in 24 countries, MAWF has granted more than 100,000 wishes to children afflicted with life-threatening or terminal illnesses. In the Philippines, MAWFP has given 50 "wish grants" in its two-year operation here.

Marketing director Celine Madamba said they want to "make the children's last days on earth happier, make them forget that they're ill." She described the foundation's work as "sharing the power of a wish."

Brought to their attention by Tina Puno of Kythe, Syrine's wish to go to Enchanted Kingdom came true last June 2.

Syrine's wishes/ p. 10



Attention students!
Guess the different school supplies for a chance to win a cool surprise!

Answer, cut and collect all 9 clues and send them to us with your name, address, tel. no., birthday and signature for a chance to win neat school stuff!

Junior Inquirer
SCHOOL CLUES
RAFFLE

I'm long, thin and tail,
I help to make lines straight.
What am I?

answer: ____________________

Arts & Crafts
GEOMETRY SETS

DURATION: JUNE 22-JULY 6, 2002
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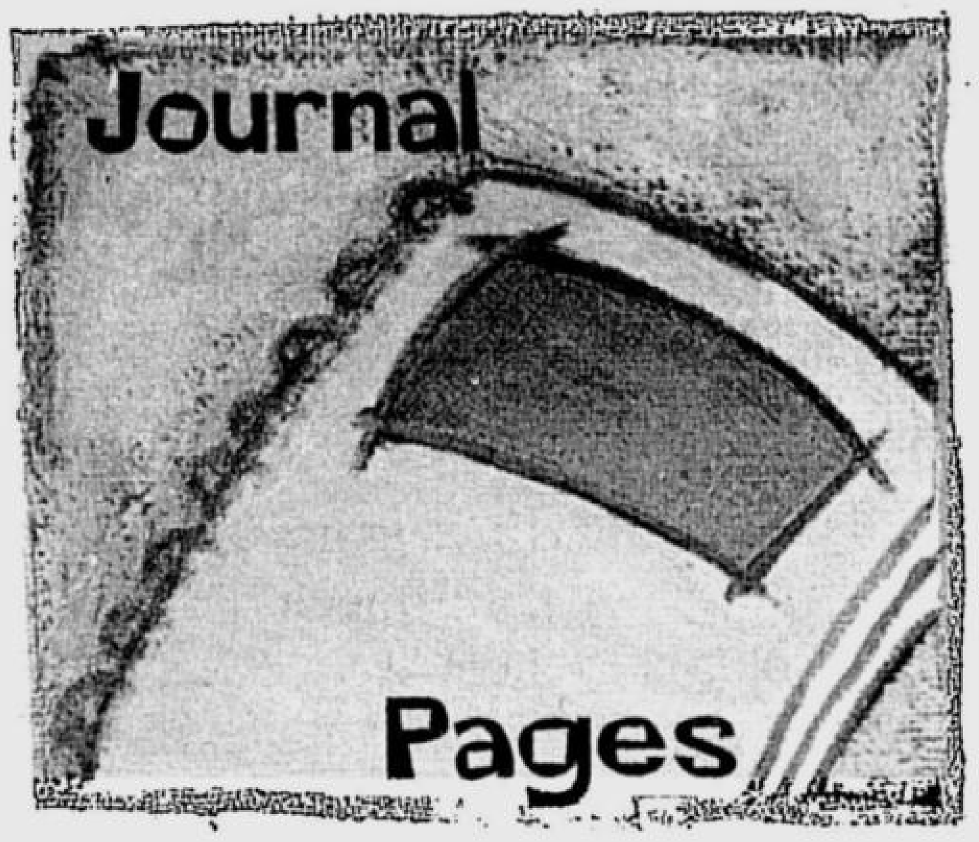


Ang Di Ko Makakalimutang Guro

Ni Nicole Mayor
Grade 3
Colegio Sta. Isabel, Laguna

HINDI ko makakakalimutan ang guro ko sa Filipino. Siya ay si Sir Gene.

Para sa akin, siya lang ang magaling gumawa ng kuwento tungkol sa Lolo at iba pa. Magaling rin siyang magturo.

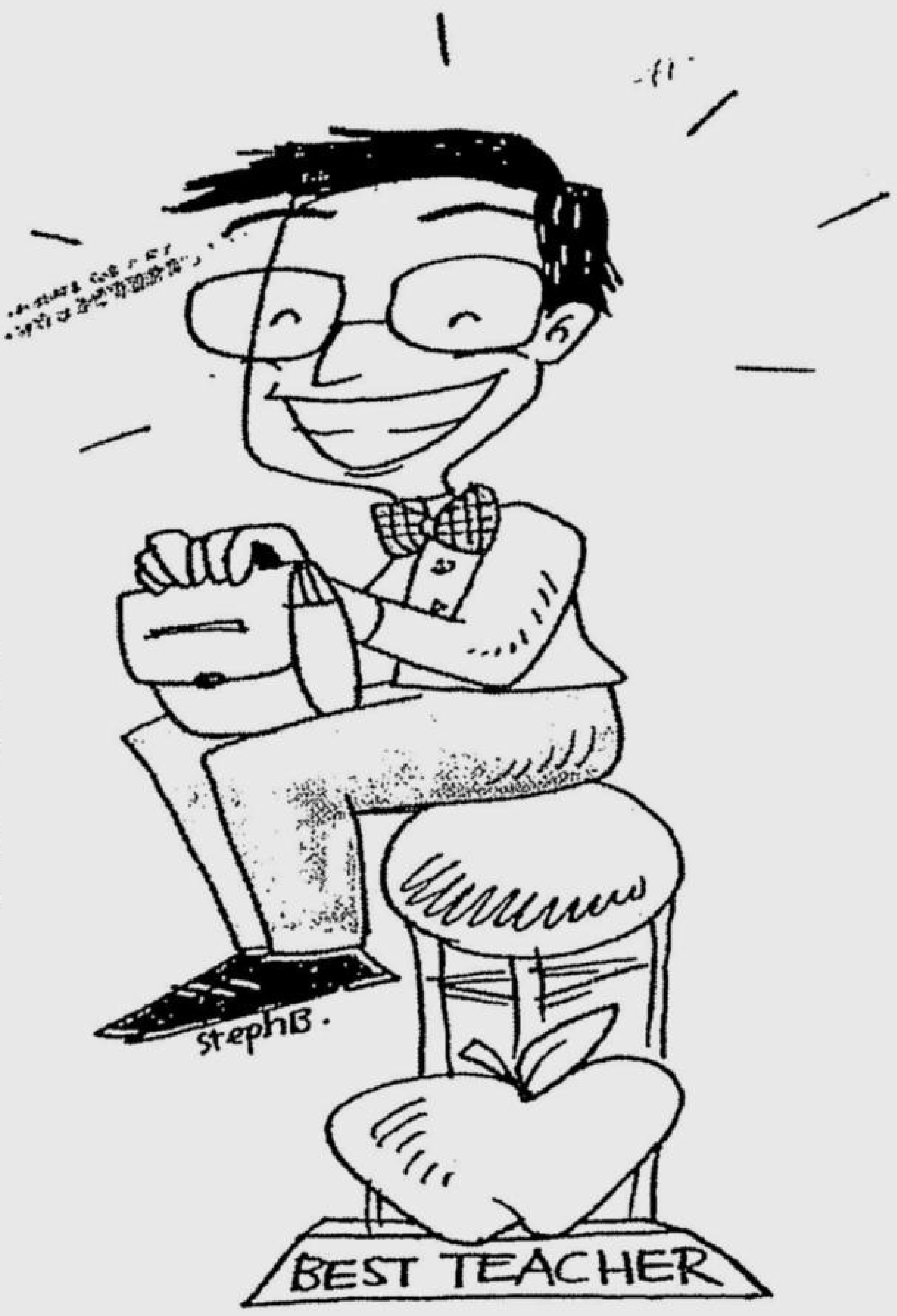
Marami na akong natutunan kay Sir Gene. Kapag ako ay bumibili ng diyaryo tuwing Sabado, nakikita ko doon ang larawan niya at ako'y natutuwa.

Naalala ko noong pinakita ko sa kaibigan kong si Mariam ang larawan ni Sir Gene. Pumunta kami sa Faculty Room para ipakita ito kay Sir Gene. Siya ay natuwa. Ako ay natuwa rin.

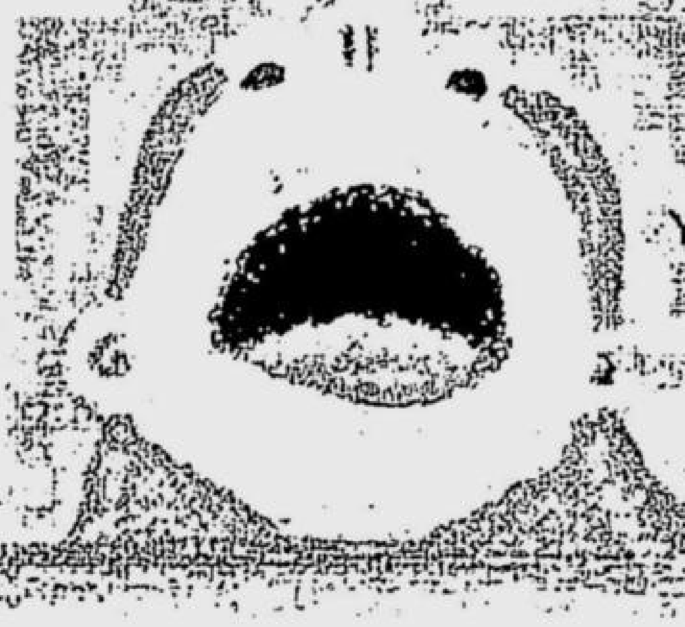
Hindi ko siya makakalimutan. Gusto ko lagi ang kuwento niya. Sana hindi rin makalimutan ng mga kaklase ko si Sir Gene.

Sound Familiar ?

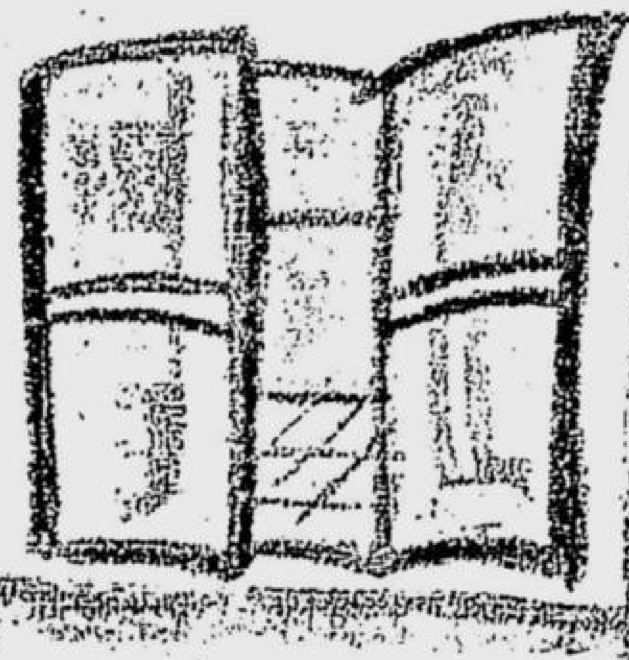
Write down your thoughts now and send them to JI. Who knows, you might just get published!



Straight From JI Readers



You can now reach us via e-mail! Our address is **ji@inquirer.com.ph** Don't forget to include your complete name, age, snail mail address and your phone number. Hope to hear from you soon!

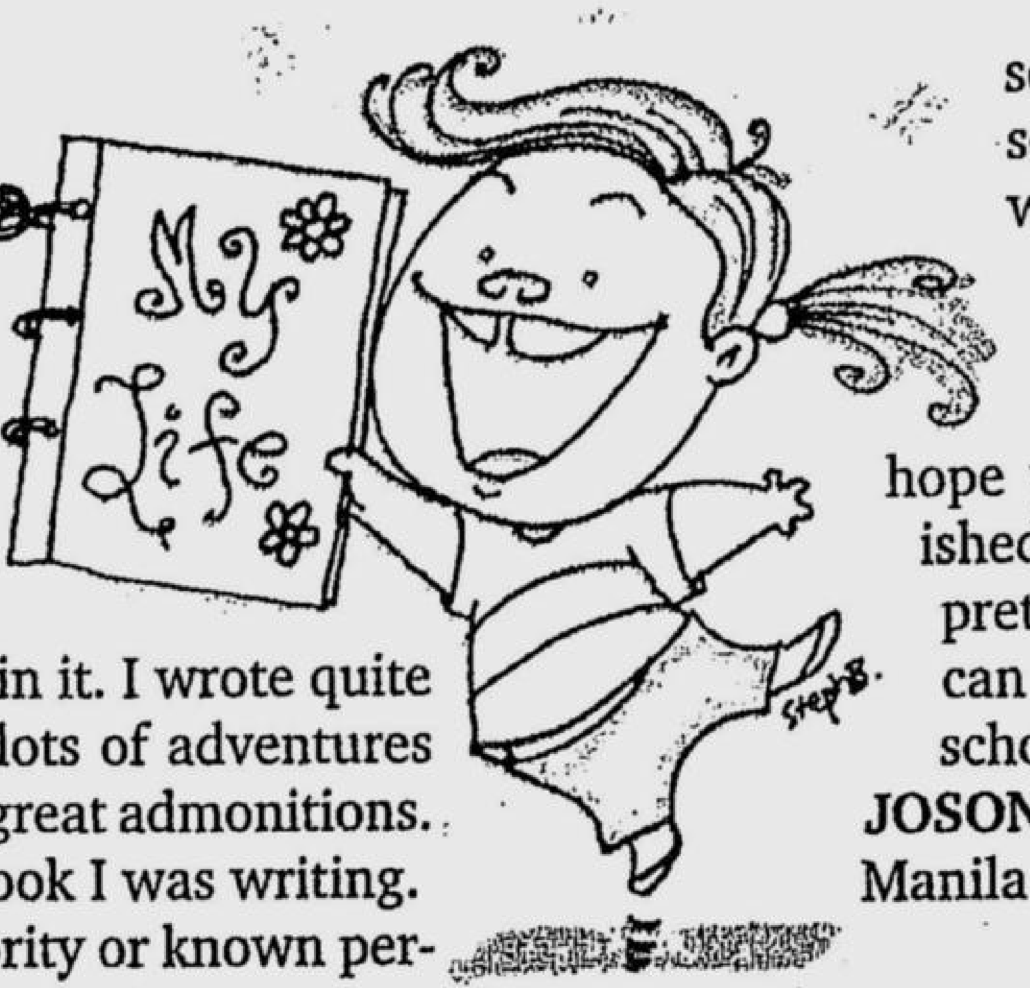


(title)

DEAR Editor,

I'VE written a book. It's called "My Life". I was wondering, how can I publish it? Coz' I don't know anyone who could publish my book. The book that I was writing has a pretty good outline in it. I wrote quite a long story. There were lots of adventures and I gave teens and kids great admonitions. I'm about to render the book I was writing.

Guess I'm not any celebrity or known person out there, huh? But I guess some will read it because like what I told you it's great and has a pleasing story after all. I want to be a writer, author or an editor just like you. I hope you can read it when it's finished. To tell you the truth, I'm a pretty popular kid in school! You can call me or visit me at my school!—**ALEXIS NOUELLE LEYVA JOSON**, 10, St. Scholastica's College, Manila



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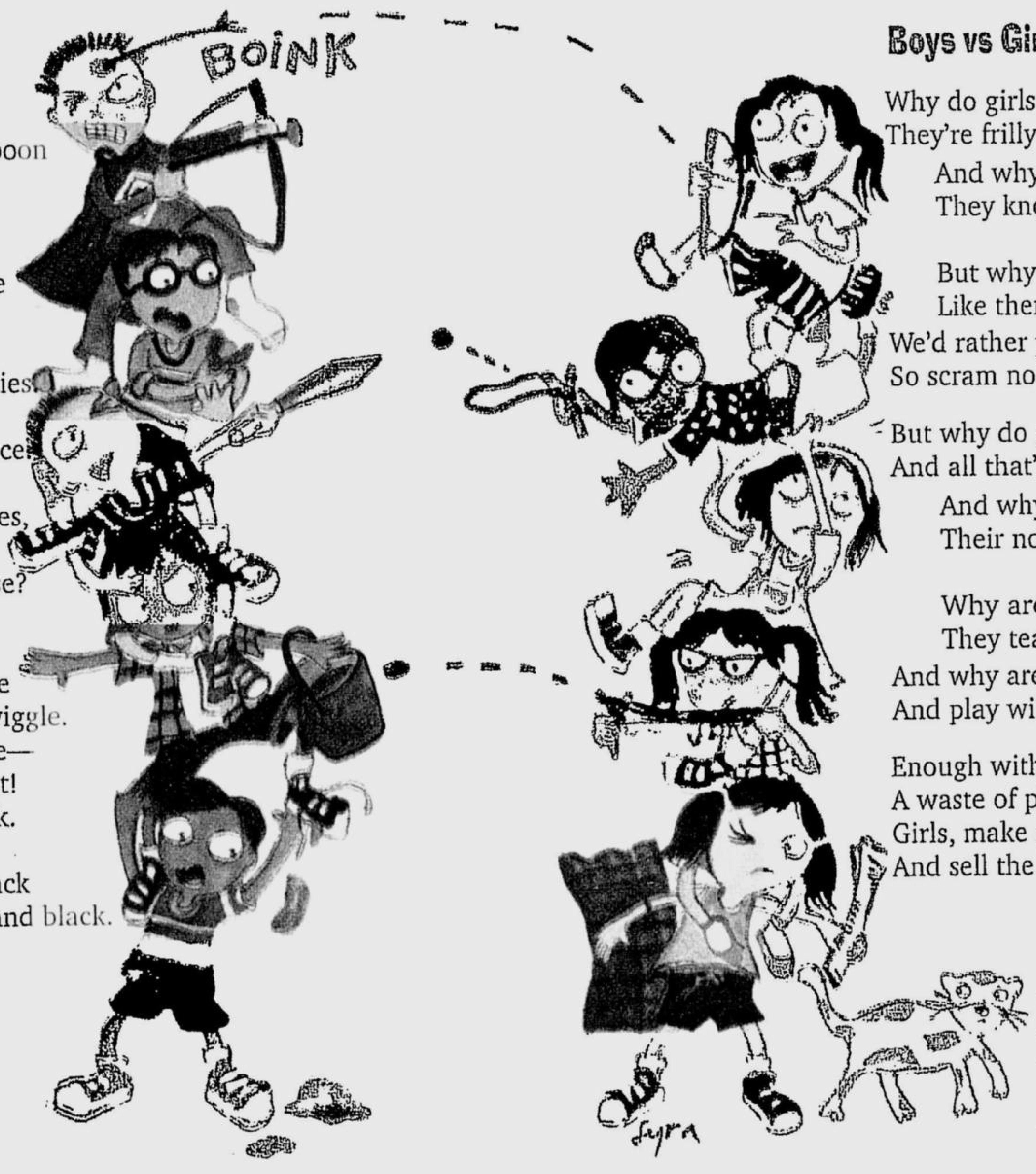
Playground Poetry

By Migs Villanueva
Art by Lyra Abueg Garcellano



War

It is a hot and windless afternoon,
When the girls decide to play:
They bring some rice, a fork and spoon
And a red pot made of clay.
Under a shade of bamboo grove
A kitchen they made cozy.
On the bare earth they light a stove
With flames so bright and rosy!

But then the boys that day were spies.
They tiptoe as they sneak.
Behind the trees, they stalk like mice.
They whisper as they speak.
And from their spot behind the trees,
They watch the girls cook rice.
These silly girls, why don't we tease?
And they do not think twice.

And so the girls, they're all a-giggle
The pot now boils, they watch it wiggle.
Their first real rice in just a minute—
They can't believe they really did it!
Just then, a ping and then a whack.
And then the pot began to crack.
The boys had hit the pot right smack
With stone so smooth and round and black.

The boys escape, they go so far
Till their legs can run no more.
For these boys are no strangers
To the horrible dangers
In girls all screaming, "WAR!"

Boys vs Girls

Why do girls wear all that lace?
They're frilly and they're silly!
And why are boys such a disgrace?
They know nothing but to bully!

But why do boys like frogs and snails
Like them, these things are yucky!
We'd rather pull your pony tails
So scram now while you're lucky!

But why do girls like teddy bears
And all that's soft and fluffy?
And why do boys like trains and cars?
Their noses always stuffy?

Why are boys all dirt and noise?
They tease and they annoy.
And why are girls all grace and poise?
And play with mushy toys?

Enough with all your fighting rhymes!
A waste of playing time
Girls, make a store, a five-and-dime,
And sell the boys some slime.

***Migs** is a mom who likes to paint and write stories.*
***Lyra** is the creator of Atomo and Weboy. She is a member of Ang Ilustrador ng Kabataan.*

Shoot & Win a BF!

contest winners

In Canon- Junior Inquirer "Shoot & Win A BF!" contest: four lucky winners among numerous entries were picked to receive their very own Canon BF 800 Camera!

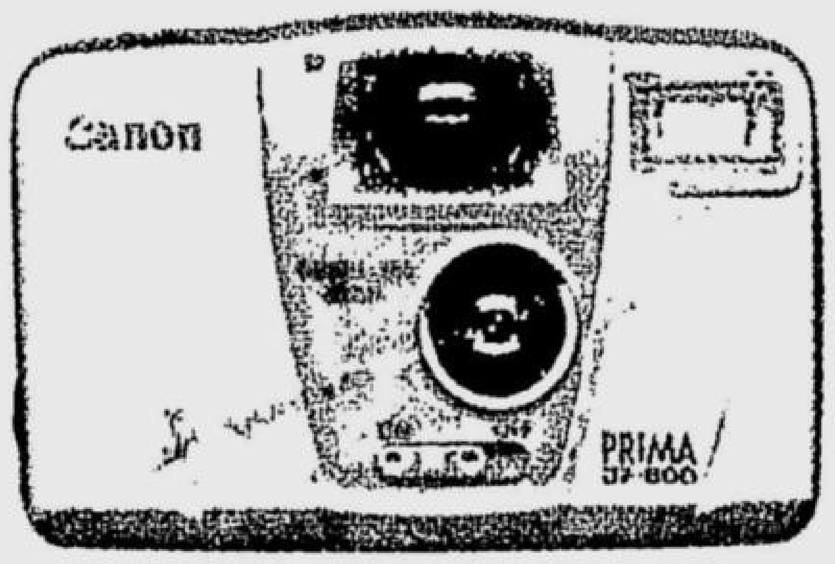
Eva Valerie E. Edora of Imus, Cavite explains in her entry "Me and My Junior Inquirer" how she fills her day with something productive, in this case, reading her collection of Junior Inquirer Magazines and answering her favorite page "Thinkathon" by Bong Barrameda. As you can see in the picture, Eva has lots and lots of Junior Inquirer she enjoys reading and using for her school projects and reports.

"Me and My Dad" entry by **Dean Marion M. Silva** of BF Homes, Paranaque City shows a very endearing moment with his Daddy Diosdado. In his essay, Marion explains that he always feels that his father loves him. They always do most things – play, eat, sleep and even paint together!

According to **Ma. Carmina G. Trinidad** of Greenhills, San Juan in her "Things I Love Most" entry, she loves her computer most dearly. She finds her computer very useful in helping her with her school assignments as well as very enjoyable as she gets to play various interactive games.

Portia Marie M. Silva of BF Homes, Paranaque City entry on "Happy Together" proves that you can really have fun and good times with your siblings. In a family of five, Portia is the middle child. Her *ate* Marou often helps her and her kid brother Marion with their school assignments. According to Portia, they are always happy together, not only on festive days but also during hard times. They always try their best to help each other achieve things. Being happy together, Portia and her siblings share their laughs, cries, thoughts, wishes, and dreams together.

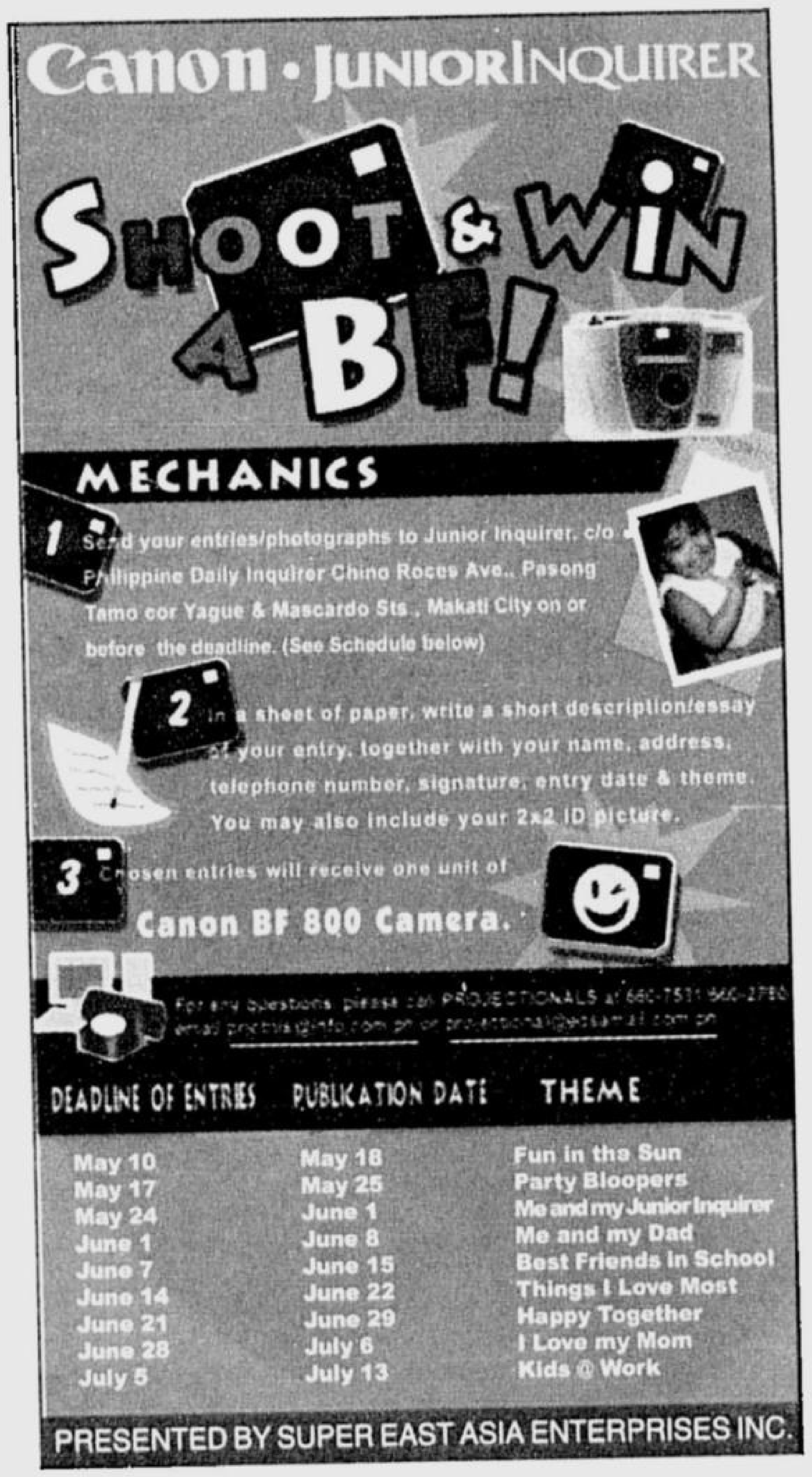
Congratulations to Eva, Marion, Ma. Carmina, and Portia for their beautiful entries!



Look Out Kid!

You could be missing on a chance to win a Canon BF 800 Camera

We are accepting entries coming from the young and the young-at-heart. Just send in your entries directly to Ms. Masoy of the Marketing Department (Philippine Daily Inquirer).


Canon • JUNIOR INQUIRER
SHOOT & WIN A BF!

MECHANICS

1 Send your entries/photographs to Junior Inquirer, c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces Ave., Pasong Tamo cor Yague & Mascardo Sts., Makati City on or before the deadline. (See Schedule below)

2 In a sheet of paper, write a short description/essay of your entry, together with your name, address, telephone number, signature, entry date & theme. You may also include your 2x2 ID picture.

3 Chosen entries will receive one unit of Canon BF 800 Camera.

For any questions, please call PROJECTIONALS at 660-7531 [illegible] email [illegible]

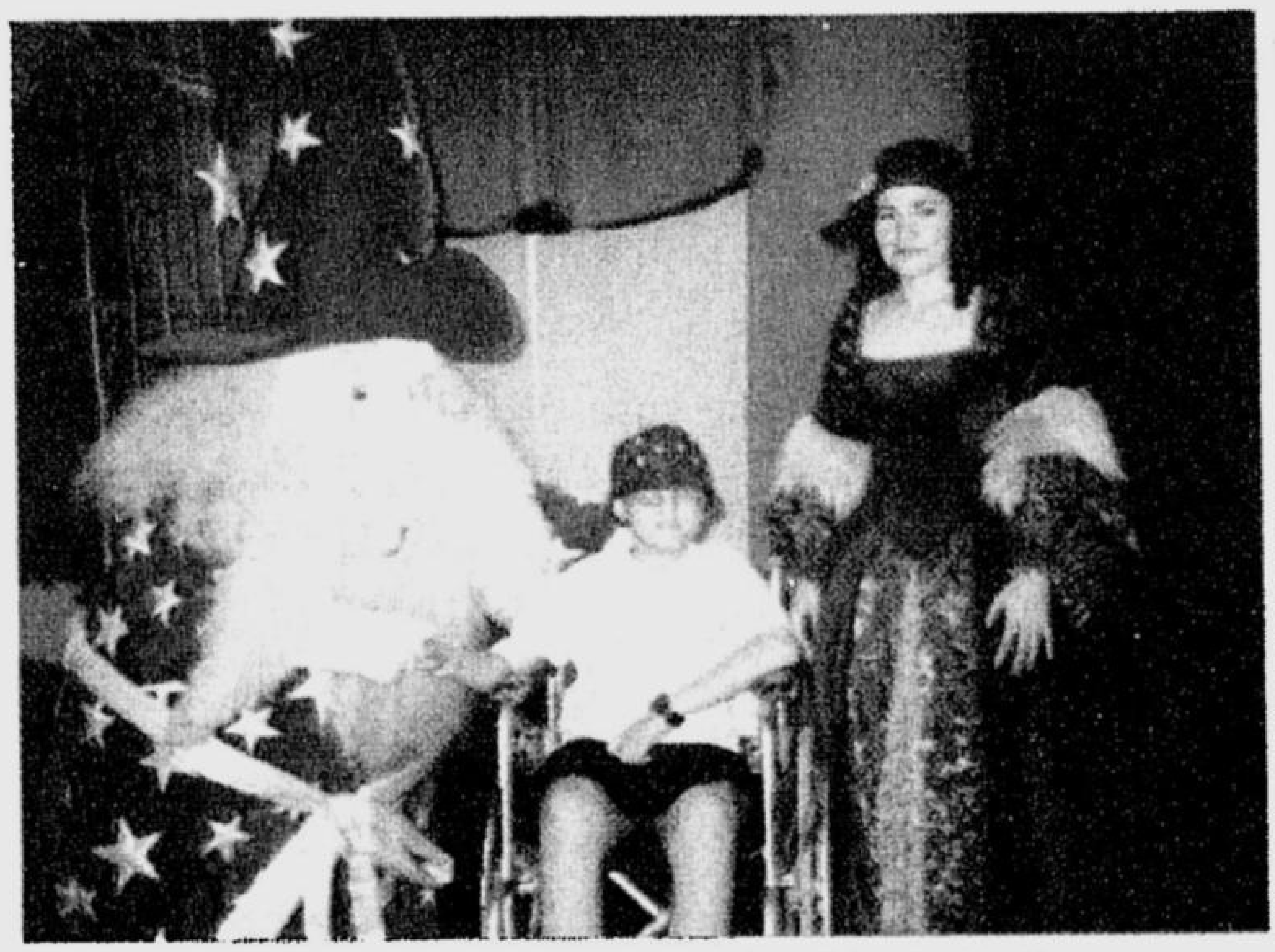
DEADLINE OF ENTRIES	PUBLICATION DATE	THEME
May 10	May 18	Fun in the Sun
May 17	May 25	Party Bloopers
May 24	June 1	Me and my Junior Inquirer
June 1	June 8	Me and my Dad
June 7	June 15	Best Friends in School
June 14	June 22	Things I Love Most
June 21	June 29	Happy Together
June 28	July 6	I Love my Mom
July 5	July 13	Kids @ Work

PRESENTED BY SUPER EAST ASIA ENTERPRISES INC.

(from page 6)

"Excited nga siya, hindi siya makatulog," Mrs. Solomon said. "Naka-abang 'yan sa telepono. Ayaw niya na may ibang sasagot, baka tumawag sila (MAWFP)."

On the big day, Sy was accompanied by 14 MAWFP volunteers, 2 Kythe caregivers and 14 Solomon family members and friends.



Here I am with the Wizard and Miss Marjorie Barretto

Syrine was given a VIP pass and a security escort so she didn't have to stand in line to get on a ride she liked.

She rode the Roller Skater (a mini roller coaster) three times to the amazement of her mother.

"Ang lakas ng loob niya! Ako, isang beses lang ayoko na. Siya tatlong beses," Mrs. Solomon said.

Syrine also rode the ferris wheel, the bumper car and the Rio Grande Rapids—a turbulent water ride that leaves its riders soaking wet.

Later in the afternoon, Syrine was a special guest at the celebrity storytelling session. She had her picture taken with the Wizard and actress Marjorie Barretto.

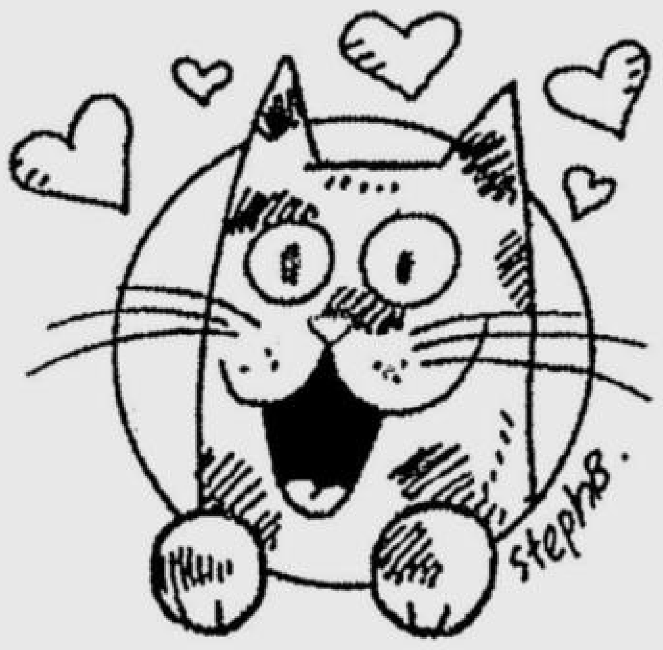
To cap the day, Syrine was given an advance birthday party complete with a chocolate cake and presents.

"Nakita mo 'yung cap ko?" she asked. "Anong itsura?" She also received doctor play kits, Enchanted Kingdom t-shirts, and storybooks. Her brother and sister also each received a gift. All her friends enjoyed the rides as well.

At the end of the day, all Syrine could say was "Masaya. Enjoy nga ako eh." And the radiant smile on her face beamed with the joy of having her wishes come true.

A Kitten Named Bounce

By Corazon A. Ong



I first saw Bounce in Intramuros across the street where I was to take my ride home. He was meowing and walking aimlessly. I decided to bring him home to join my eight dogs and close to 30 cats.

With his woeful eyes, a coat matted with grease and dirt, he must have been roaming the streets for days before I saw him.

When we reached home, I immediately fed him and was glad that he finished the rice with shredded fish in no time at all. He soon fell asleep after eating.

The following day, I brought him to our family veterinarian. He was dewormed and some of his hair cut because they were already sticky with dirt. The vet also told us to bathe him when we reach home. He also recommended some vitamins.

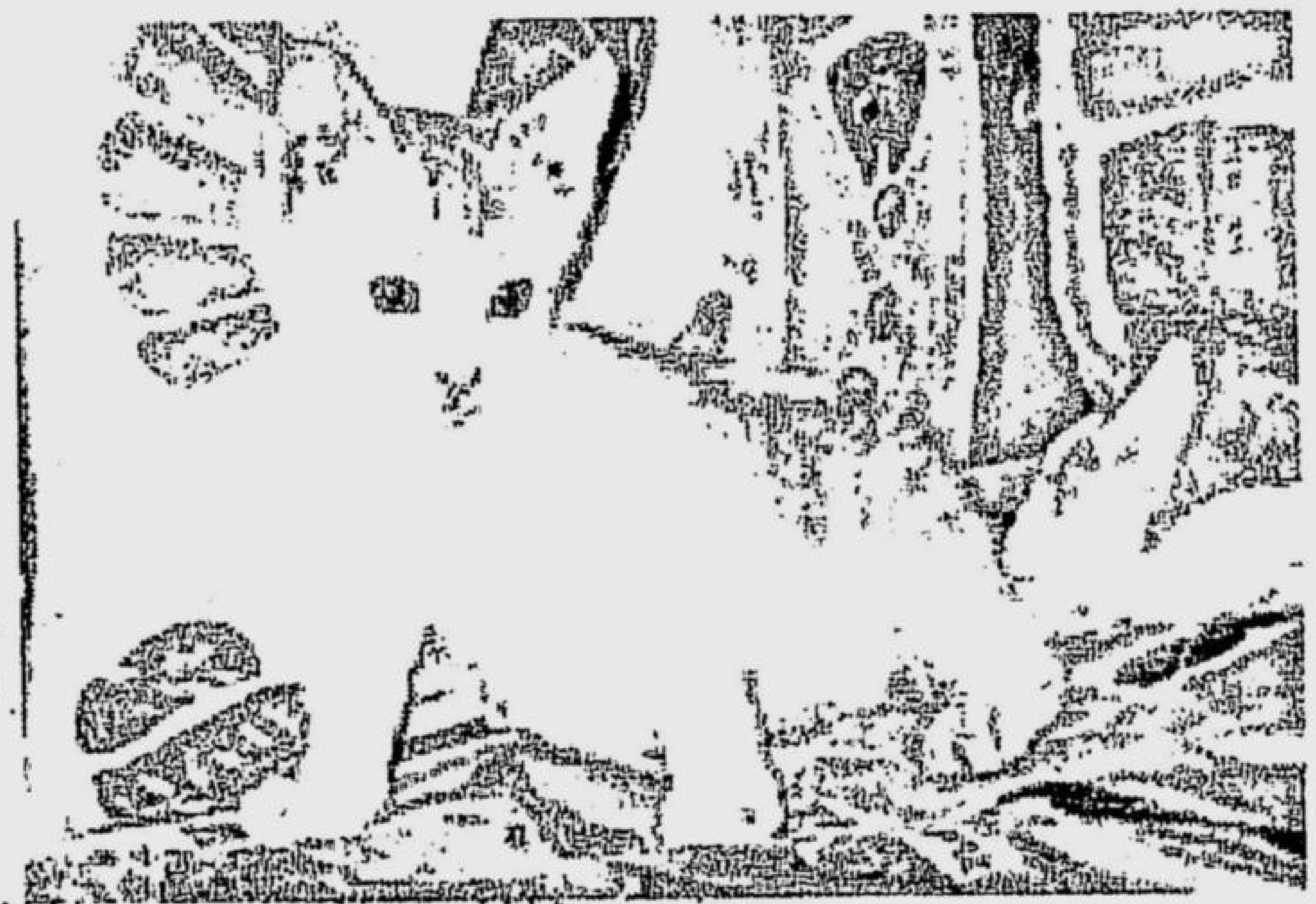
Showering Bounce with lots of care and love did the trick for in three weeks' time, he was transformed into a handsome kitten-bright-eyed, lovely coat and all.

This was not the first time I saved an unwanted kitten or cat.

I remember Louie, a kitten I picked up from a canal, who became the favorite companion of our dogs at home. I have adopted several others—a group of three siblings dumped in the garbage can near my office. One time, I saw three other kittens dumped near the road, one was run over. The two others I brought home.

Years ago, I saw a full grown cat left for dead in the garbage can and took it home. It had cigarette burns all over the body and was very weak but like Bounce, it also bounced back to life.

Loving animals and taking good care of them is all it takes to make a difference in their lives. In return, they will shower you with love and bring you much happiness.



Attention students!
Guess the different school supplies for a chance to win a cool surprise!
Answer, cut and collect all 9 clues and send them to us with your name, address, tel. no., birthday and signature for a chance to win neat school stuff!

Junior Inquirer
SCHOOL CLUES
RAFFLE

I'm sticky and I'm gooey -
And I'm great at putting things together.
What am I?

answer: ____________

Arts & Crafts
WHITE GLUE

DURATION: JUNE 22-JULY 6, 2002
SEE PRINT AD FOR DETAILS
PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 2436 SERIES OF 2002

Positively Aphrodite

Despite family trouble, this girl maintains a cheerful outlook that keeps the blues away

by Eline Santos

APHRODITE S.CRUZ believes people don't have to be achievers to be considered terrific.

"*Di mo naman kailangan maging magaling sa school*. Love yourself for being you," the 14-year-old St. Scholastica student says. "I feel good about myself, with what God has given me. *Mahal ko sarili ko*."

Better known as Sister Aphrodite to friends, this choir singer is sought out for advice.

"Sometimes my friends have problems," she relates. "Later on they say, ang bait talaga ni God. Hearing that is music for the heart."

"God is good all the time," is Aphrodite's prayer before going to bed.

"*Ayaw kong may nagmumura*," she tells us, and she reprimands those who do.

Does she plan on becoming a nun? Aphrodite shakes her head, "I would rather be a theologist."

Aside from collecting rosaries and angels, Aphrodite also collects soda can tabs to be recycled into wheelchairs.

Being Happy with Merlin

She likes reading inspirational books. After her parents separated, Aphrodite said she became aloof and uncaring. But she came across the book "Being Happy" by Andrew Matthews.

"A book can change your whole personality," the now-bubbly Aphrodite says. "Others might think inspirational books are absurd or silly. They should try them first. Those books can be a big help."

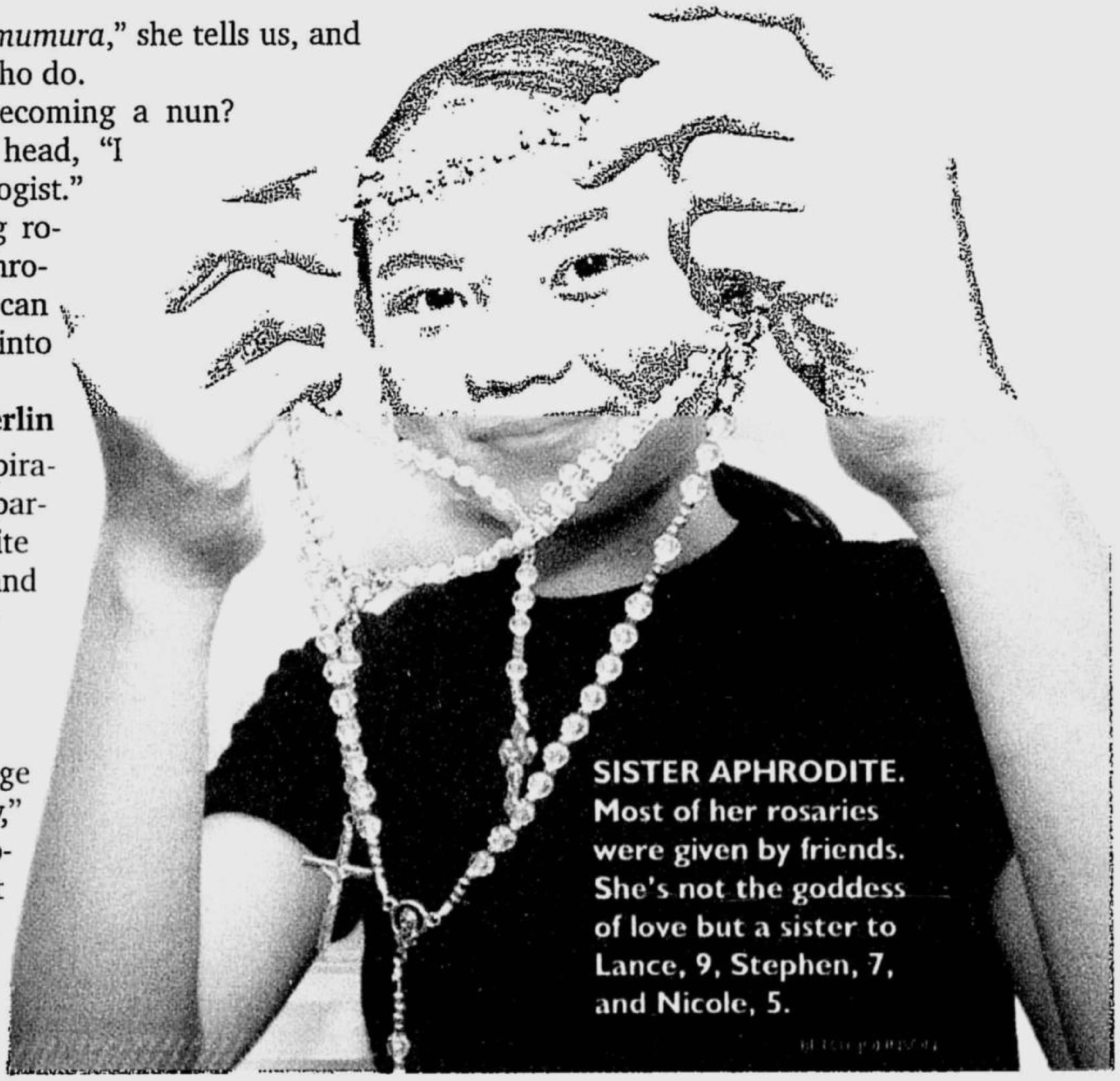
This book lover likes "The Lost Years of Merlin" by T.A. Barron.

"It's really good! You should read it," she gushes.

"*Mahilig akong magsulat*. Someday I will write my own version of Merlin's life."

She shares what she learned from the books, "*Lahat ng tao may magic within*. No two magics are the same. Strive to be different."

What are her resolutions for this school year? "Do good in school. Love God more. Practice thinking positive."



SISTER APHRODITE. Most of her rosaries were given by friends. She's not the goddess of love but a sister to Lance, 9, Stephen, 7, and Nicole, 5.

R U 'RRIFIC?

'Rrific kids are smart
'Rrific kids are fun
Some aren't in the honors list
But get their homework done

Somehow the world's
a better place
I know this much is true
Hey 'Rrific kid!
We know you're there
We love you 'cause you're you!

If you think you're 'Rrific' or know someone who is, fill out the the nomination form below and send it to:

Junior Inquirer
'KIDS'R'RRIFIC Page
Phil. Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces
cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts.
1231 Makati City

Chosen nominees will be featured on this page and will get a

FREE Junior Inquirer & CASIO EMI T-shirt, Plus! a chance to win a Keylighting keyboard!

Kids'r'rrific nomination form

I nominate: ______________________

Age: ______________________

I think she's/he's 'Rrific because: (Here's a tip! Write a detailed description of a good deed, project or accomplishment by your nominee.)

She/he lives at ______________________

and studies at ______________________

Her/his contact number is: ______________________

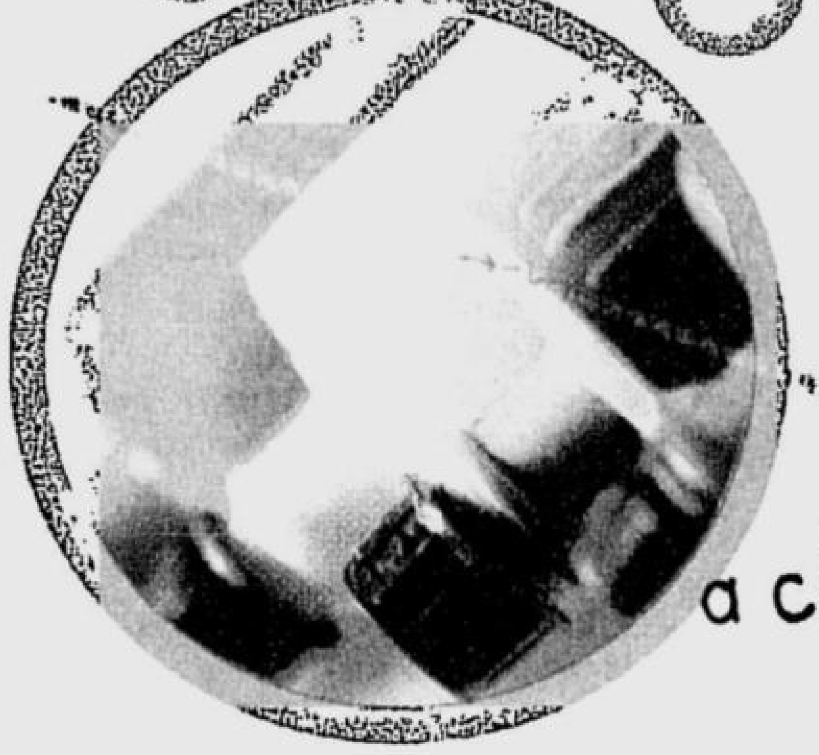
Sender's Name: ______________________

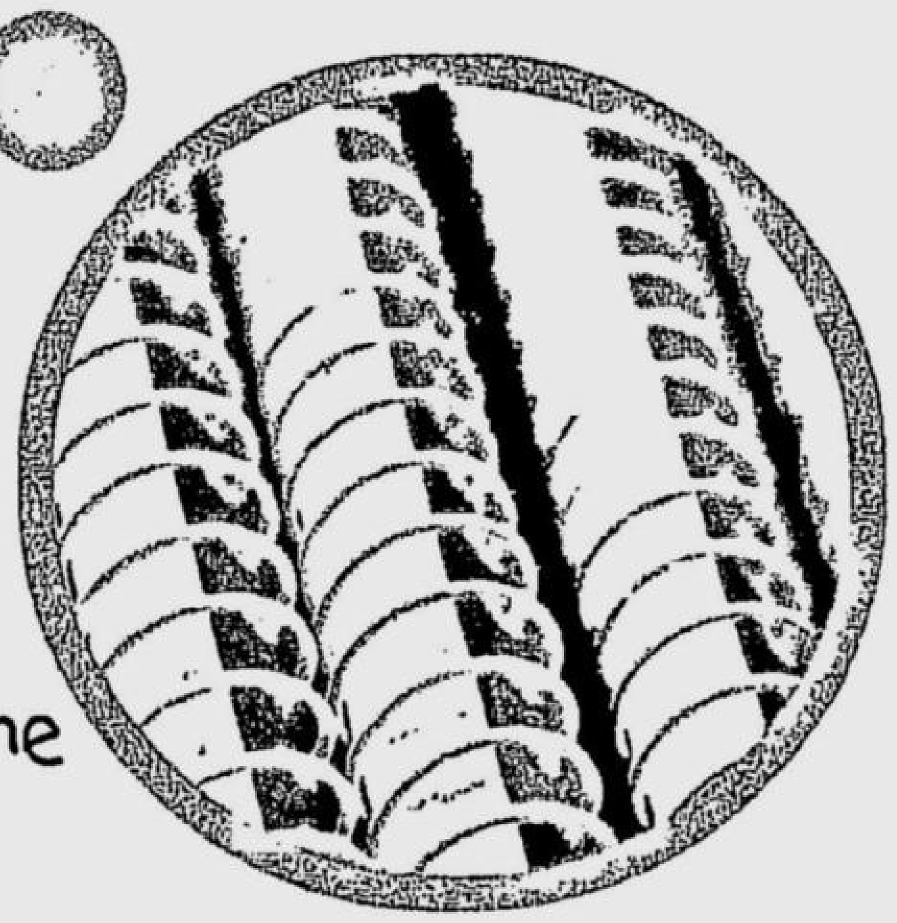
Sender's Age & School: ______________________

Sender's Address: ______________________

Sender's Contact No.: ______________________

KEY LIGHTING KEYBOARD
CASIO



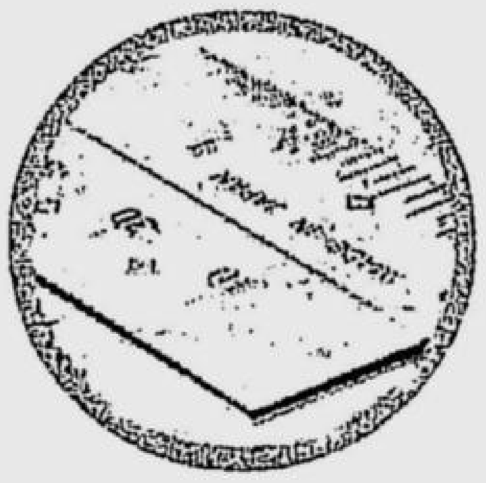


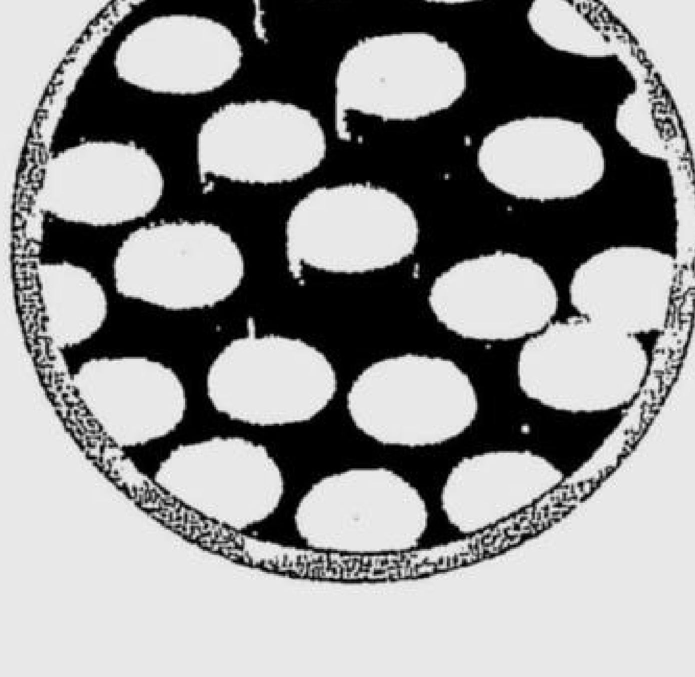
Get set for
school and get
a chance to win in the

Junior
INQUIRER

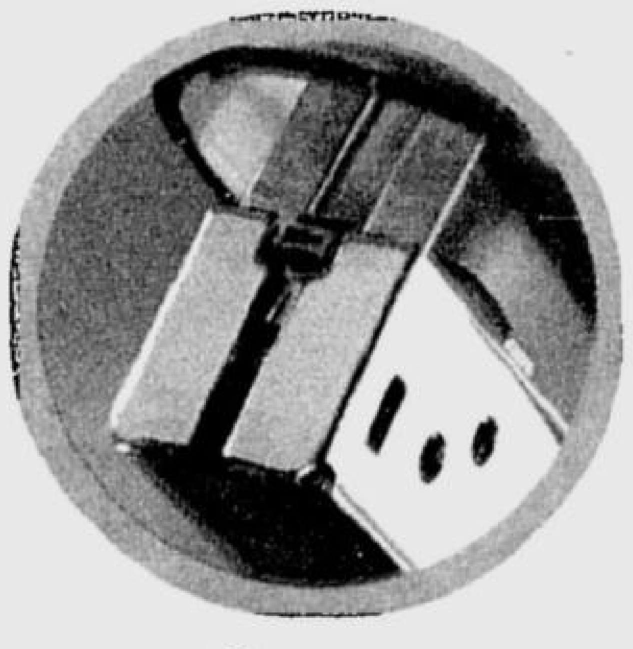
SCHOOL CLUES

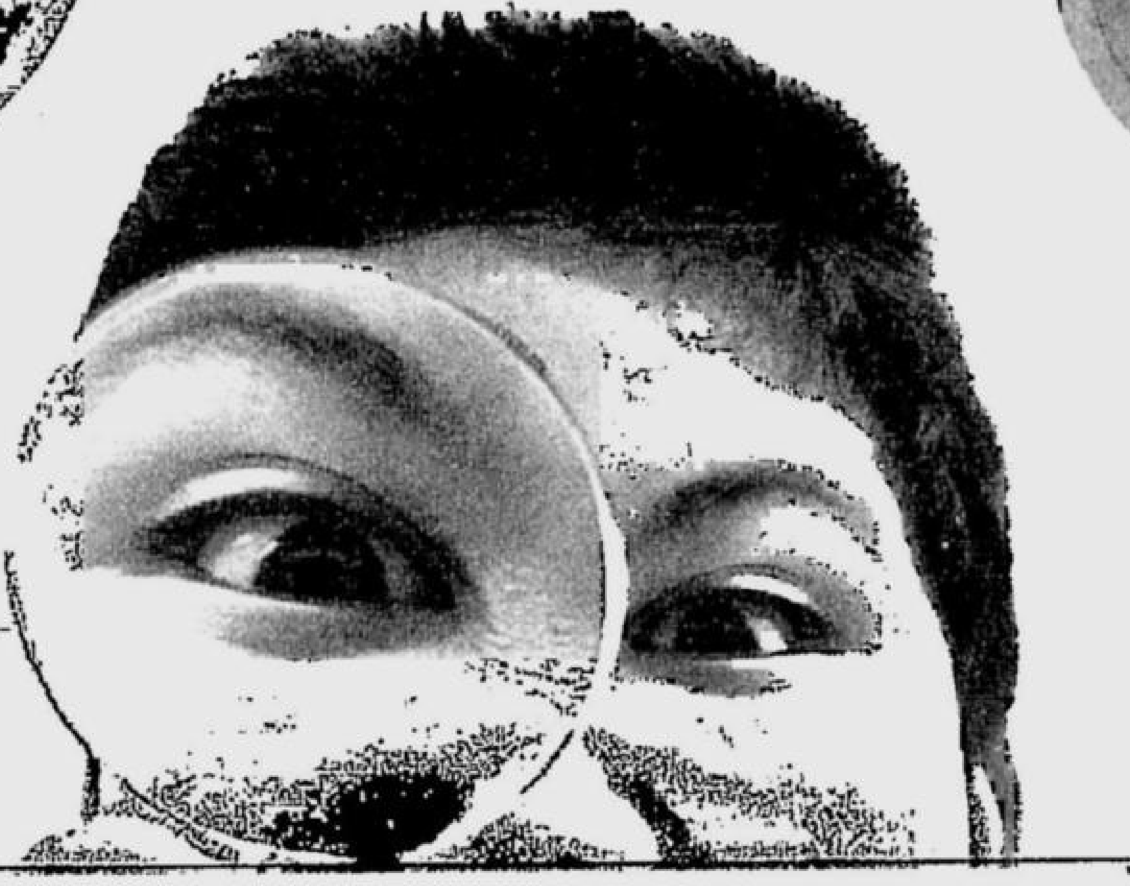
RAFFLE





Attention students 5 to 12 years old! Want to win cool school stuff? Then here's your assignment: look for clues scattered in the pages of the Junior Inquirer issues on June 22, 29 and July 6 and guess the different school supplies described by the clues. Collect all 9 clues and send them to us in an envelope along with a piece of paper with your name, address, telephone number, birthday and signature for a chance to win neat prizes in our back-to-school raffle on July 15.





Arts & Crafts

MONGOL METAL SHARPENER

MONGOL. for kids
Perfect Wood Pencil for young beginners

Arts & Crafts
GEOMETRY SETS

AMSPEC

Arts & Crafts
WHITE GLUE

PROMO MECHANICS:

1. The promotion is open to children 5 to 12 years old. For three (3) consecutive issues, starting June 22, 29 & July 6, 2002, three (3) School Clues will be hidden in the pages of the Junior Inquirer.
2. Look for the clues and answer each clue correctly.
3. Collect all nine (9) clues that will come out in the three (3) issues published within the promo duration (June 22, 29 & July 6) and on a piece of paper, write your name, address, tel no., affix your signature and date of birth and put inside a white legal size envelope and mail to School Clues c/o Junior Inquirer, Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts., 1231 Makati City.
4. This serves as a single official entry to the raffle draw during which the following prizes shall be given away: Ten (10) winners will each receive a School Gift Pack (notebooks, pencil case, crayola, ruler, eraser, sharpener). Only entries with correct answers for all nine (9) clues are considered valid.
5. Entries must be received by 5:00 pm of July 12, 2002 to qualify for the raffle draw.
6. An individual may send more than one entry but can only win once in the raffle draw.
7. The raffle draw will be held on July 15, 2002 at 3:00 pm at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office in the presence of an official DTI representative.
8. Raffle prizes are not convertible to cash.
9. Raffle draw winners will be notified by phone and registered mail and their names will be announced via print ads.
10. Winners can claim their prizes at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office upon presentation of the notification letter and a valid ID (school ID or passport).
11. Raffle prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of Philippine Daily Inquirer with prior approval from DTI.
12. Employees and staff of Philippine Daily Inquirer, their advertising agency and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.
13. Promo is valid only in GMA.

PER DTI-NCR PERMIT NO. 2436 SERIES OF 2002

L.A · ON and the 7 Headed Dragon

MEET FRODA. Gabby Lee writes her version of legendary heroism in "La-On". Move over, J.R.R. Tolkien!

MIKE ALQUINTO

Gabby Lee: A young writer and her first book

By Agatha Guidaben

WHEN she was only 2 years old, she would sit on her daddy's lap and read the newspaper out loud.

In the same breath, she says she can recite an entire scene from the "Lord of the Rings" script by heart.

Really, there's no telling what Gabby Lee can do. For one, as she herself reluctantly admits, she used to write fan fiction about her favorite boy band back when she was in 7th grade.

First Attempts

A few years after that, she went on a whim and decided to write a novel of sorts—a love story, at that. A friend who read her work showed it to her English teacher, who in turn told her that the story was not good.

"But then he also said that I have a good grasp of the language," Gabby recalls, saying the teacher actually inspired her to think about writing as a career. "He told me, 'You have the craft.'"

At 18, Gabby is an incoming sophomore taking up a course in creative writing at the University of the Philippines in Quezon City. She took her teacher's compliment to heart; to date, she has already contributed works that got published in Youngblood and the Sunday Inquirer Magazine.

Published!

She is also the author of "La-On and the Seven-Headed Dragon," a children's book she and her mom (illustrator Marcy Dans Lee) worked on.

"We shut my dad and siblings out of the room, sat on a couch, lit a candle, and kept on laughing all night," Gabby says. Her mom wrote the original story, but the manuscript got lost. Gabby started writing the rhymes from scratch, aided only by her mother's finished illustrations.

Finally, they were able to piece the legend of Mt. Kanlaon in Negros Occidental at the break of dawn.

"It was funny working with my mom," Gabby quips.

As an afterthought, Gabby adds that the best part in writing is getting published.

The fun part, she said, was hearing people say they liked her work.

Do you know a grown-up who

- is fun to be with
- has an exciting job
- keeps an amazing hobby
- is all of the above???

If you know a grown-up whom all kids will love, give him or her the stamp:

A.K.A. COOL

Just fill out the nomination form below and tell us why your fave grown-up is the absolute coolest. If your nominee is chosen, ***YOU'LL*** *get a free JI T-shirt! Now that's really cool.*

A.K.A. COOL
is an 'adult known as cool'
They're the folks
in our own family
Or the people
we meet in school.

I nominate ______________.
He/She is ________ years old and is my ________________.
Here are five super solid reasons why I think you should write about him/her:
1)____________________;
2)____________________;
3)____________________;
4)____________________;
5)____________________;

My nominee lives a__________ ____________________.
Give him/her a call at ________
or send him/her an e-mail at ____ ____________________.
By the way, I'm __________ ____________________.
I'm_________years old.
My address is______________ ____________________.
You may call me at__________ ____________________

?Thinkathon?

Are You a Word Wiz?

The answers to the teasers below can be figured out with a dose of vocabulary know-how and a dash of patience. Have fun (and pun)!

1. What word is it from which the whole may be taken and yet some will be left?

2. What words can be pronounced quicker and shorter by adding another syllable to them?

3. What word, by changing the position of one letter, becomes its opposite?

4. What word is spelled incorrectly in every dictionary or thesaurus?

5. In a certain word the letter L is in the middle, in the beginning, and at the end. There is only one L in the word. What is this peculiar word?

6. What is the longest word that contains only 1 vowel in it?

7. What word contains a single vowel that is repeated six times?

8. In what very common word does the letter O sound like the letter I?

9. There is a common word of three syllables from which, if you take away five letters, a male will remain. If you take away four letters, a female will remain. If you take away three, a great man will appear, and the whole tells you what Joan of Arc was. What is it?

10. What word, when deprived of one of its letters, makes you sick, we hear?

Answers:

1. WHOLESOME
2. QUICK and SHORT
3. UNITED -- UNTIED
4. INCORRECTLY
5. INLAND (the latter L is in the middle; in in the beginning; and is at the end)
6. STRENGTHS
7. INDIVISIBILITY
8. WOMEN
9. HEROINE - he, her, hero, heroine
10. (M)USIC

Ratings:

superbrain!
11-12
excellent
9-10
good
6-8

Mysterious Melungeons of the mountains

KINGSPORT, Tennessee—Might the Melungeon people of the U.S. Appalachian mountains be descendants of Moorish and Turkish sailors who escaped the Lost Colony of Roanoke? Or are their ancestors Portuguese settlers, Indian gypsies or one of the Lost Tribes of Israel?

Historians remain confounded by the mystery of these olive- and copper-skinned people who have lived in isolated pockets across Appalachia over the past several centuries.

A just-completed genetic study of some of their 15,000 to 50,000 modern-day descendants failed to find the ethnic smoking gun to explain their origins.

Melungeons were first documented in the late 18th century here in the mountains of east Tennessee, and in neighbouring Virginia and North Carolina—but where they came from and how they got there has remained a mystery.

Some believe Elvis Presley and actress Ava Gardner had Melungeon blood.

Those who study the Melungeons have put forward various theories, some that seem to have less to do with shared ethnicity than they do with shared burdens.

"The Melungeon identity is based on a shared culture of people who have had to deal with prejudices of one kind or another over skin colour," said Brent Kennedy, author of *The Melungeons: Resurrection of a Proud People*.

"It is a term for a group who are not white but who refused to be classified as black," said Mike Nassau, a 62-year-old retired librarian from Gainesville, Florida, whose great-grandmother was Melungeon.

One thing that is certain is they were distinctive from their white neighbours in appearance, making them frequent targets of prejudice and discrimination that may have pushed many to settle in Appalachia's isolated ridges and ravines.

Early Melungeons' skin color ranged from black to copper-colored, their straight hair often jet-black, their eyes blue or hazel, and some shared a trait of growing extra fingers.

Culturally they resembled their neighbours, except for a funerary tradition of building a small shelter over graves.

Some oral histories of the Melungeons trace their origins to Portugal, while other theories connect them to the Lost Tribes of Israel, the Spanish conquistadors, or Mediterranean slaves who fled into the Appalachians during U.S. colonial times.

More recent research has bolstered their possible ties to the Mediterranean or the Middle East.

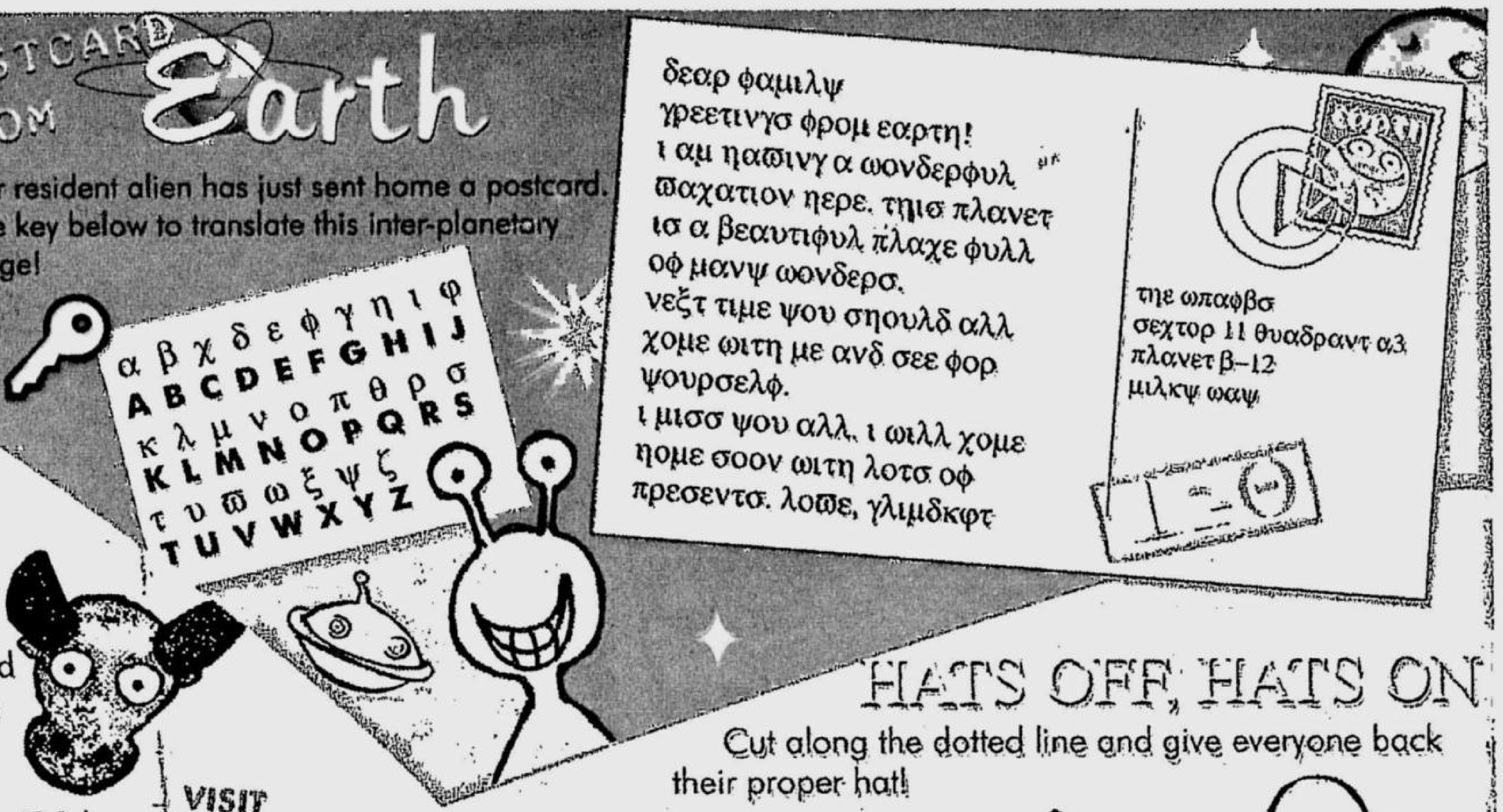
"Melungeon" also sounds exactly like an Arabic word meaning "cursed soul." Reuters

THE LUNCH BOX

by Katrina B. Villa

POSTCARD FROM Earth

Our resident alien has just sent home a postcard. Use the key below to translate this inter-planetary message!



α β χ δ ε φ γ η ι φ
A B C D E F G H I J
κ λ μ ν ο π θ ρ σ
K L M N O P Q R S
τ υ ϖ ω ξ ψ ζ
T U V W X Y Z

δεαρ φαμιλψ
γρεετινγσ φρομ εαρτη!
ι αμ ηαϖινγ α ωονδερφυλ ϖαχατιον ηερε. τηισ πλανετ ισ α βεαυτιφυλ πλαχε φυλλ οφ μανψ ωονδερσ.
νεξτ τιμε ψου σηουλδ αλλ χομε ωιτη με ανδ σεε φορ ψουρσελφ.
ι μισσ ψου αλλ. ι ωιλλ χομε ηομε σοον ωιτη λοτσ οφ πρεσεντσ. λοϖε, γλιμδκφτ

τηε ωπαφβσ
σεχτορ 11 θυαδραντ α3
πλανετ β–12
μιλκψ ωαψ

NOY'S NOTEBOOK

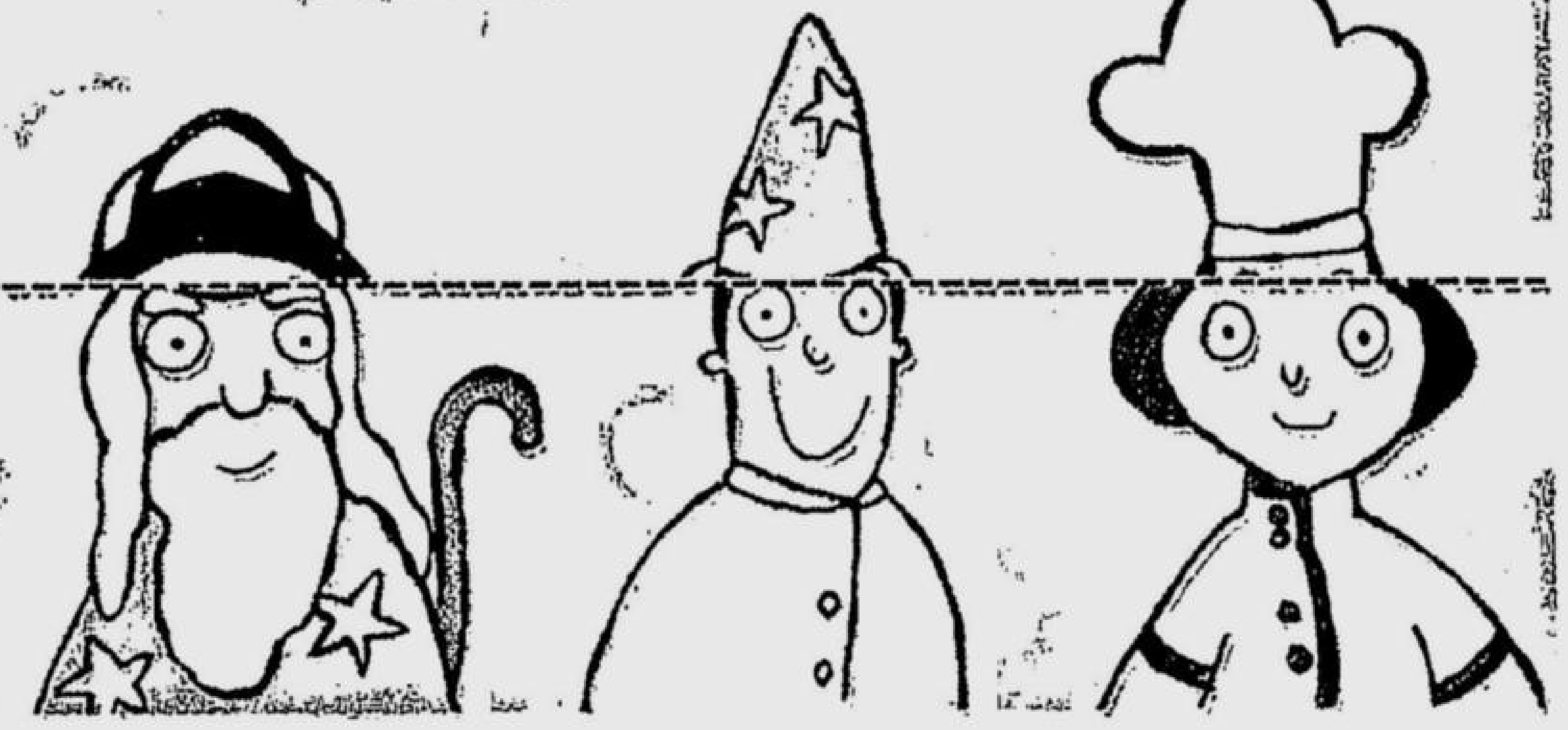
The TAMARAW is an endangered animal that can be found only in our country. It looks a lot like a carabao, except it's smaller, and its horns form a "V". The Tamaraw is in danger of disappearing forever because of the destruction of its habitat, and hunting.

The Tamaraw's scientific name is BUBALUS MINDORENSIS. How many words can you get from that name? I found 33!

VISIT WWW.WWF-PHIL.ORG.PH

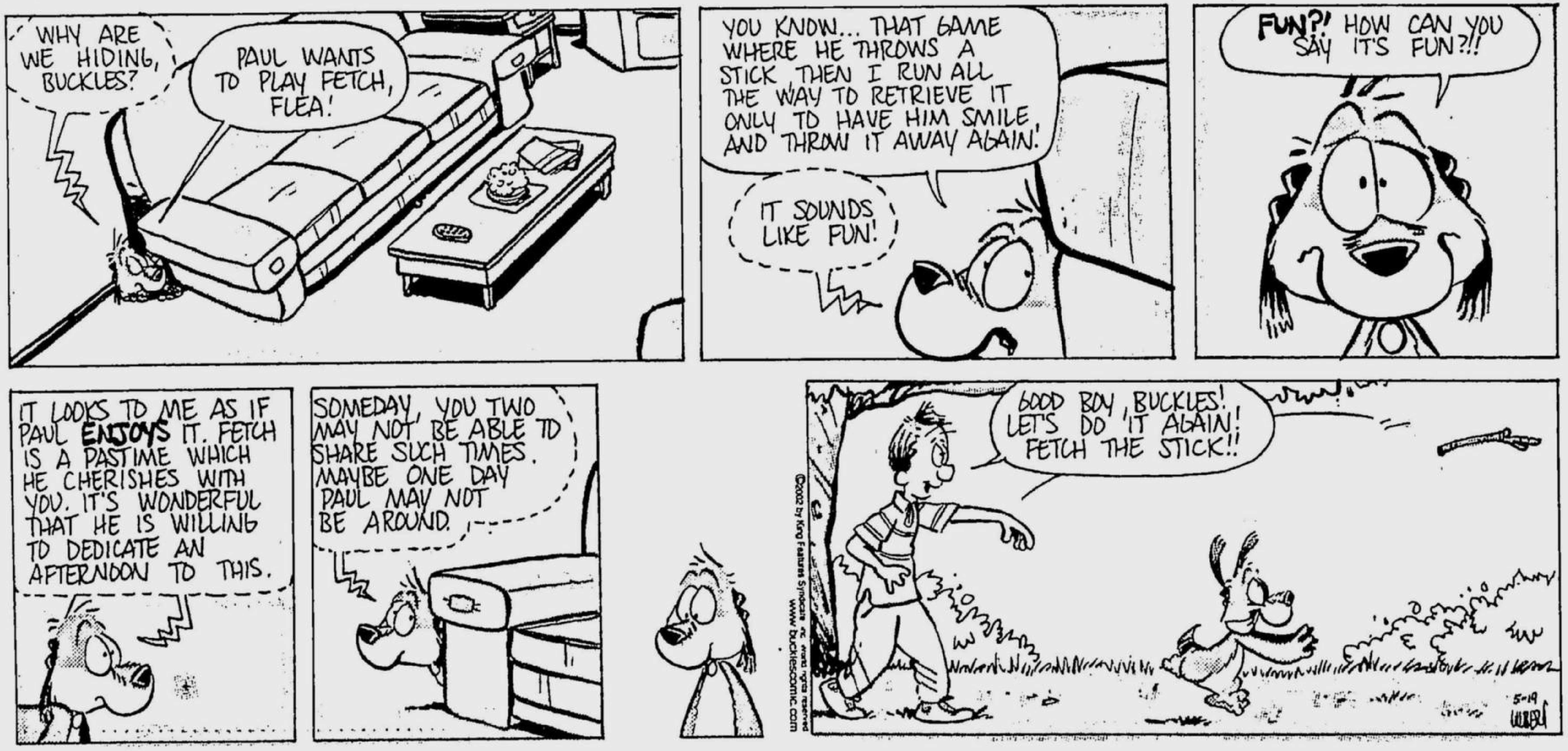
HATS OFF, HATS ON

Cut along the dotted line and give everyone back their proper hat!



BUCKLES

BY DAVID GILBERT


WHY ARE WE HIDING, BUCKLES?
PAUL WANTS TO PLAY FETCH, FLEA!
YOU KNOW... THAT GAME WHERE HE THROWS A STICK, THEN I RUN ALL THE WAY TO RETRIEVE IT ONLY TO HAVE HIM SMILE AND THROW IT AWAY AGAIN!
IT SOUNDS LIKE FUN!
FUN?! HOW CAN YOU SAY IT'S FUN?!!
IT LOOKS TO ME AS IF PAUL ENJOYS IT. FETCH IS A PASTIME WHICH HE CHERISHES WITH YOU. IT'S WONDERFUL THAT HE IS WILLING TO DEDICATE AN AFTERNOON TO THIS.
SOMEDAY, YOU TWO MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SHARE SUCH TIMES. MAYBE ONE DAY PAUL MAY NOT BE AROUND.
GOOD BOY, BUCKLES! LET'S DO IT AGAIN! FETCH THE STICK!!
5-19

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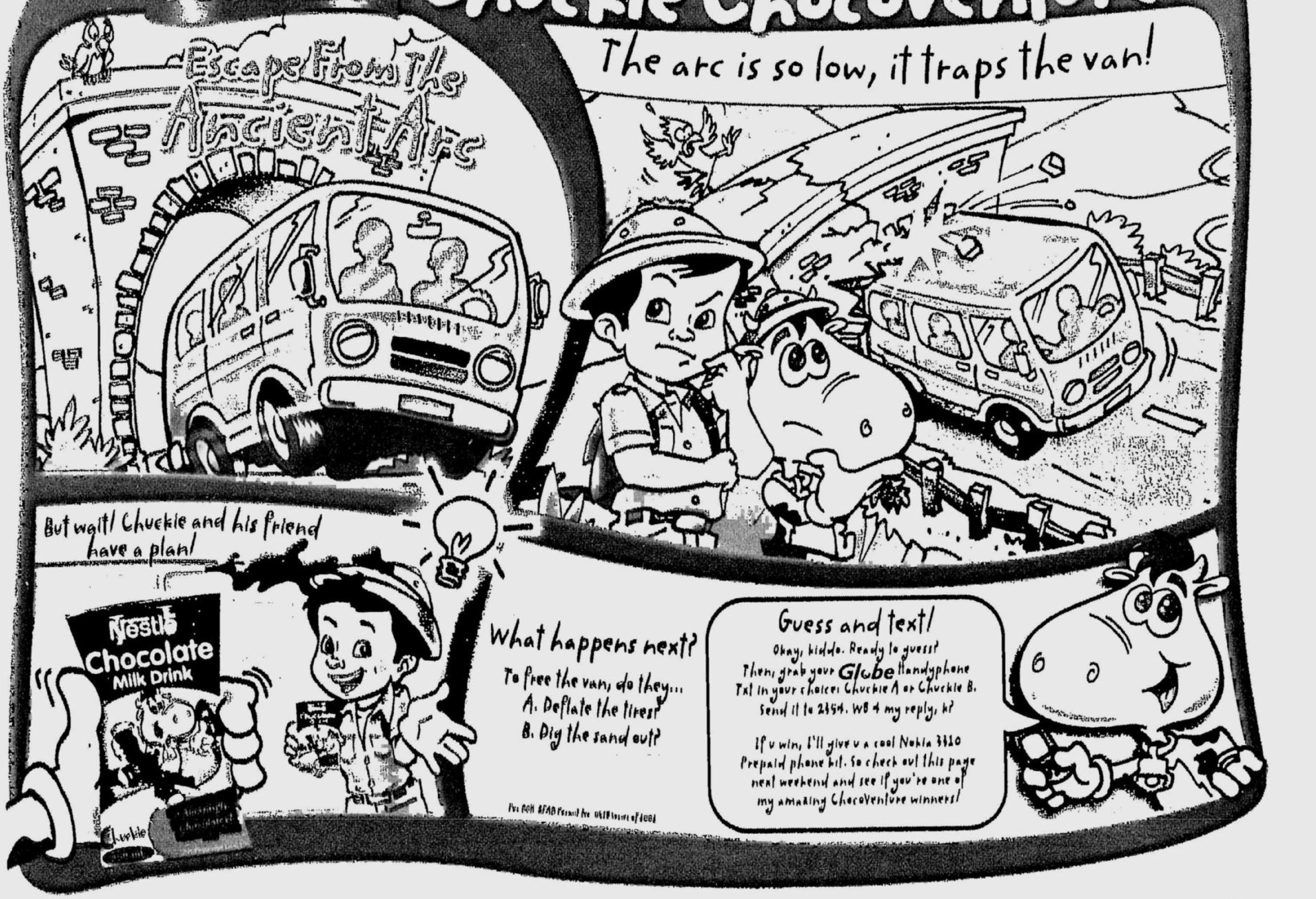
Nestlé Chuckie Chocoventure


Escape From The Ancient Arc
The arc is so low, it traps the van!
But wait! Chuckie and his friend have a plan!
Nestlé
Chocolate
Milk Drink
Chuckie
Amazingly Chocolatey!

What happens next?

To free the van, do they...
A. Deflate the tires?
B. Dig the sand out?

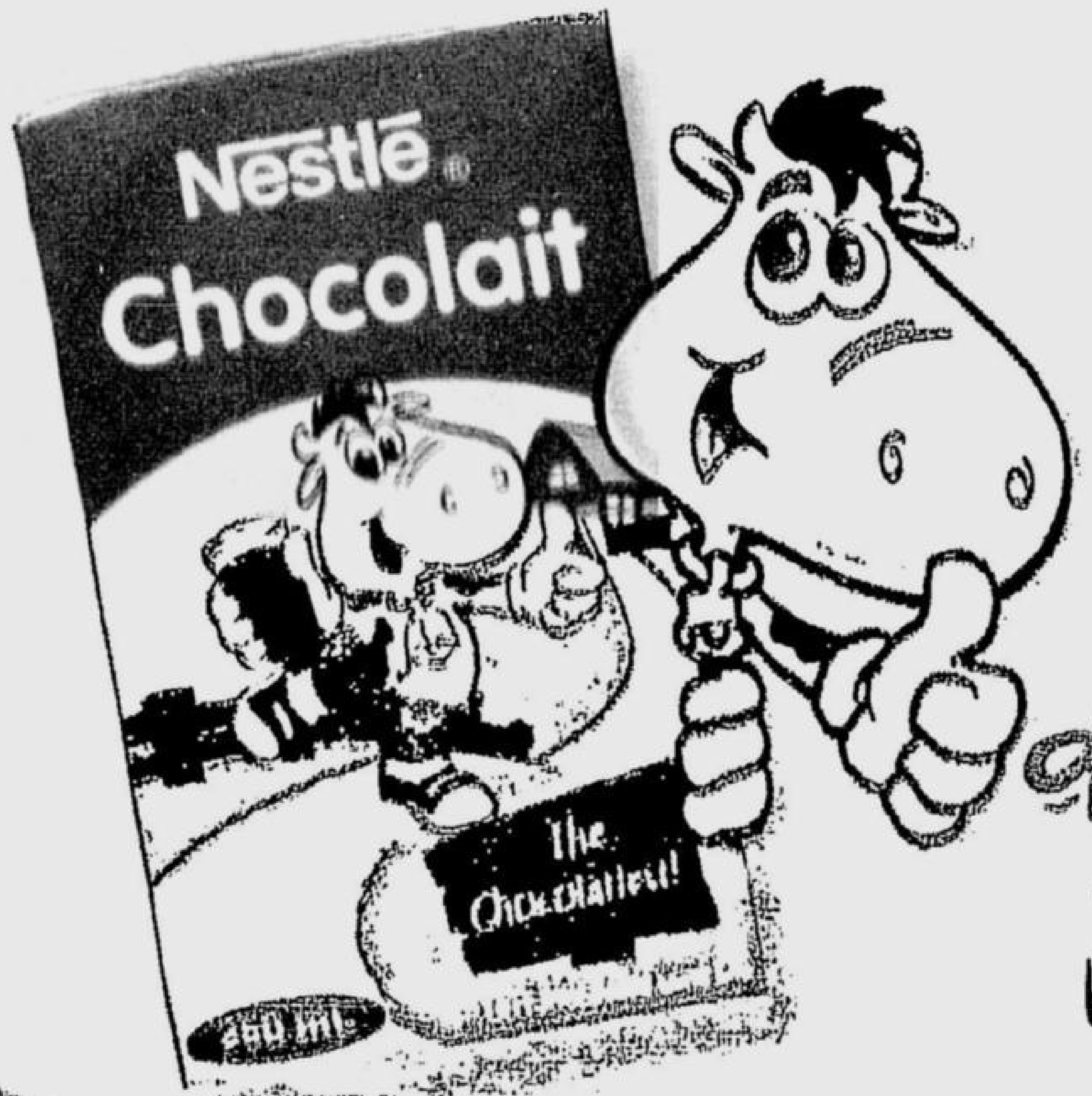
Per DOH BFAD Permit No. [illegible] Series of 2001

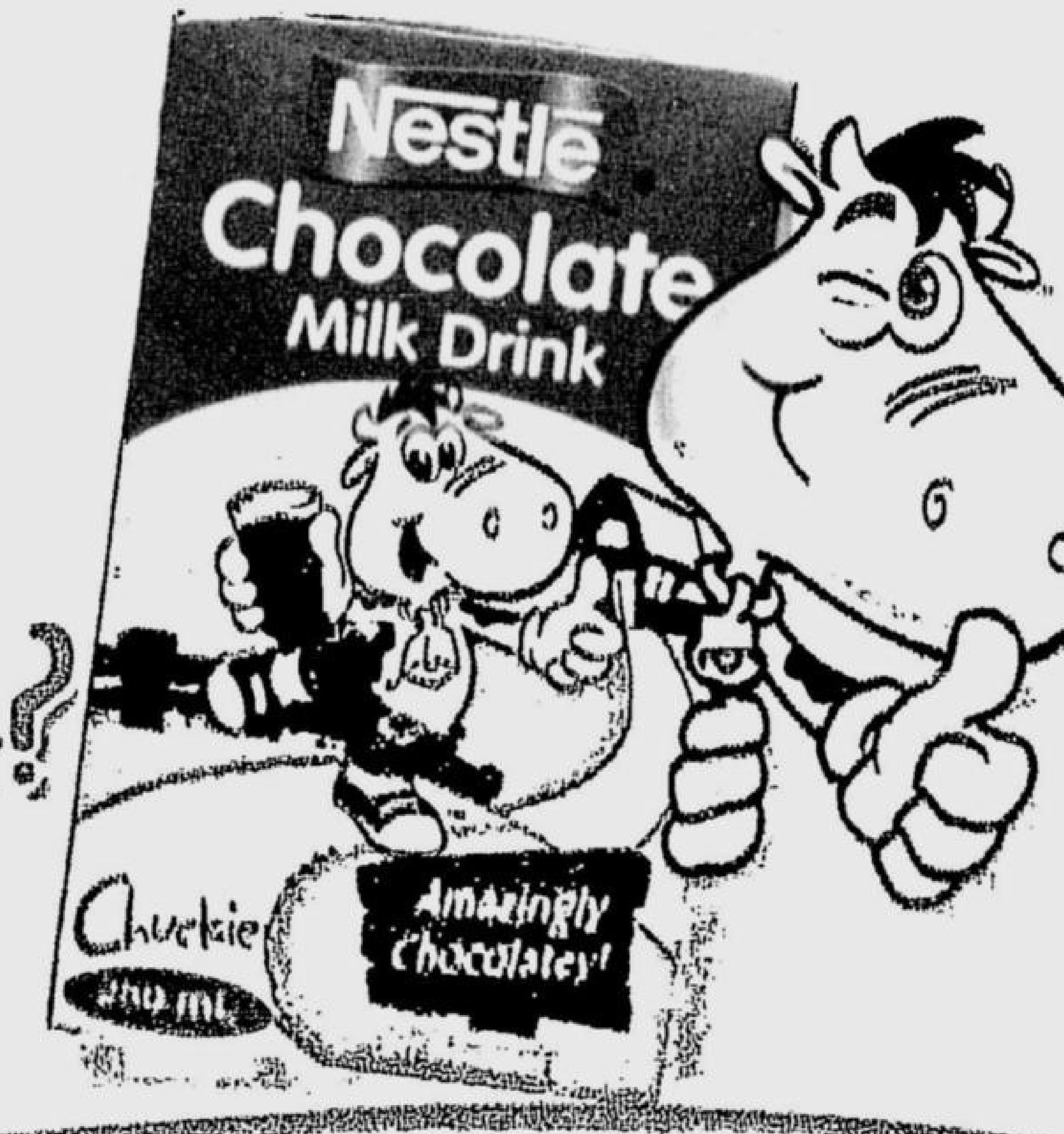
Guess and text!

Okay, kiddo. Ready to guess?
Then, grab your Globe Handyphone
Txt in your choice: Chuckie A or Chuckie B.
Send it to 2354. W8 4 my reply, k?

If u win, I'll give u a cool Nokia 3310
Prepaid phone kit. So check out this page
next weekend and see if you're one of
my amazing ChocoVenture winners!

Can you spot the difference?


Nestlé
Chocolait
The Chocolatiest!
250 ml


Nestlé
Chocolate
Milk Drink
Chuckie
Amazingly Chocolatey!
250 ml

There are 8 differences
between the two pictures.
Spot them all!

Answers: 1. Blue Nestlé flag 2. The new name "Chocolate Milk Drink" 3. "Chuckie" on pack 4. Signage text 5. Hair spike of Chuckie 6. Chuckie's wink 7. Chuckie's mouth 8. Chuckie's wrinkle